

New Netherlands Coin Co., Inc.

SUITE 401
1 WEST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

PHONES PLAZA 7-5245-6

May 7, 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Your letter of May 3rd just received.

I will send you my specimen of the Dr. Edward's Immune Columbia along with a few other pieces, some time in the next week or so, or at least when I can get to it.

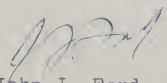
What other struck copies to add to the Kenny listing presents somewhat of a problem. There are many struck copies of U.S. and Colonial coins, few or any of which might fit in with the subject as Dick presented it. Some, like the early Massachusetts fabrications were altered after striking, i.e., the "Cogwheel" series; others, like the Betts fabrication are very involved and almost all unique. Many U. S. contemporary counterfeits are actually struck copies, and are repeatedly offered as pattern, trial or experimental coins.

Please tell me specifically what kind of assistance you want from me, and what you want to do. I will help in any way that I can.

I would suggest that you go over Noe very carefully, find out about the Betts situation from the ANS, and let me know what you think. Don't forget that I would like to see Max Kaplan's unpublished oddities.

Very best personal regards in which CMW joins.

Sincerely,



John J. Ford, Jr.

JJF:dn

New Netherlands Coin Co., Inc.

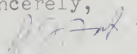
Page 2 - Mr. Eric P. Newman

related series.

I sincerely wish that I had time to give you full assistance on your struck copy and similar material article. Frankly, I had not hoped to get into this, until Breen and I put together a specialized catalog on U.S. Colonial and copper coins. Am now up to my neck on the gold volume in this series, which will be the first one published. I wish I could get you interested in being contributing editor in this venture as your assistance would be of very great value.

Very best personal regards.

Sincerely,



John J. Ford, Jr.

JJF:dn

P.S. The Miller Ryder book with Breen notations in it is one of several prepared by W.B. some years ago. The notations are, of course, now almost entirely out of date - it is not WB's personal copy.

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1 WEST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

PHONES PLAZA 7-5245-6

May 23, 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

I have in front of me your letters of May 3, 13th and 14th. As usual, I am snowed under but will try to do the best that I can.

1. Enclosed you will find your \$10 1861 CSA note, together with my copy of ~~the~~ agreement. I would still like to make this trade with you eventually, and wonder if you still feel the same way. In any event, it is probably better for you to retain the note. I do not want to break your heart, but I know of at least one better Ab plen in better condition than your A 15, but I have not been able to get my hands on it.

2. Many thanks for the bow tie. I wore it upon a visit to F.C.C. Boyd last Tuesday and he told me you had sent him a regular size one. At least he noticed it!

3. About the items Kaplan turned over to you. What Higley copy is the piece you mention? Are you sure that the Clinton is a Betts? Last of all, what is a "Robinson" copy of an Immune Columbia? The only struck copy ^{of} ~~of~~ ^{of} this piece was made by Dr. (Singleton) Edwards. If any of these three pieces are other than the usual ones, I would like very, very much to see them. From what you say, some body is definitely fouled up on the Immune.

My Dr. Edwards Immune is in silver, and is only the second specimen known to exist. The other, illustrated in Crosby, is in the Appleton Collection, in the Mass. Historical Society.

If you are going to get into the Betts copies, you are going to get in pretty deep.

4. There are numerous struck copies of the Mass. silver series. Some of these have been tastefully engraved to create additional varieties. Noe is also the man to talk to about these. Take a look at his books on the Mass. silver series, and you will get a better idea of what I am talking about. The Clay sale is a very prolific source for much of the New England silver chicanery.

I am leaving on June 14th for a far western trip, my yearly attempt at doing research in the field on the Pioneer gold and

May 28, 1957

Mr. John J. Ford, Jr.
New Netherlands Coin Company
1 West 47th Street
New York 36, New York

Dear John:

I am returning herewith your \$10 CSA note No. 2361, plate letter Ab, dated September 2, 1861. At least you will be able to say that this is one of the strangest transactions you have had with respect to one piece of paper money. I'll bet you never had a contract before covering one.

I am glad you liked the bowtie and I have sent Freddie one to go along with his four-in-hand variety.

With respect to the fakes which Kaplan turned over to me, you are familiar with all of them. The Higley is dated 1731 instead of 1737 with "value me as you please" on the obverse and "Connecticut" on the reverse. I have a picture of it. I do not know who made it; do you? It is not the Boland copy at all - being much cruder.

I, of course, was completely wrong on the Immune. I knew it was Edwards and why I put Robinson, I do not know. I would, very much, like to borrow, however, your Immune in silver as I wish to take a picture of it, get its specific gravity and weight.

I know that your trip to the West will be most enjoyable and you will probably pick up a great deal of information as well as coins.

You say that you wish you could get me interested in being a contributing editor in your specialized catalogues. I thought you realized I would do so. When you want me to do some work on it just tell me what portion needs a little push.

My very best to you and please tell Charles that we survived the tornadoes - which were actually much less dangerous than a coin convention.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

New Netherlands Coin Co., Inc.

SUITE 401
1 WEST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

PHONES PLAZA 7-5245-6

September 20, 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Your letter of the 16th arrived this morning, just as I arrived in the office after an hour and a half wait on a stalled commuters train.

While I was terribly unhappy to hear about the fire in your basement, I can't tell you how happy I am that none of your fine currency collection was impaired. Please, Eric, will you now get rid of all those damn cellulose-nitrate holders.

We undoubtedly have some of the books that you need, even though I have not seen any recently. Whatever we do have, is yours! All I need, is time to get into the back room and get things cleared up. You have been very patient about our paper money deal, which, together with Wayne Raymond's library, has been sitting here for too long. I am at home working like mad on our next public sale, and in addition, am building a small office at home to hold my books and to give me a decent place to work. I expect to be back in the office late in October, and promise you that I will really hustle and get things cleaned up at that time.

I did not send you the Edward's Immune in silver, because I have heard about what I believe to be a gold Edward's, and have been wanting to hold my silver piece for comparison. Since I expect to meet the party with the alleged gold impression at the N.E.N.A. Convention in October, I will have to hold off until then re sending you the silver piece. Is this all right?

We are sending out a Standard Catalog to you under separate cover today. I did not want to get involved with this book, but got into the act at the last minute, as I wanted Mrs. Raymond to have at least a half way decent book. She was adamant about publishing, and I hope that my efforts are satisfactory. However, I am still working slowly on my specialized catalog and will bother you when we both have a little time for serious work.

I hope that you get the mess cleaned up from your fire, and that you have no trouble with your insurance company.

Very best personal regards.

Sincerely,

John J. Ford, Jr.

New Netherlands Coin Co., Inc.

SUITE 401
1 WEST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

PHONES PLAZA 7-5245-6

October 15, 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Walter and I are in up to our necks on a problem of the greatest magnitude and interest. It is concerned with the Edward's Immune Columbia. Before I send you my specimen, which you wanted to study, Walter and I have to do some more research. Don't worry, after we get through banging our heads against the stone wall, we will hand all our headaches over to you.

#1. Can you tell us the negative number at ANS portraying your Crosby 2-A Nova Constellatio?

#2. Crosby on Plate VII, and Evans History of U.S. Mint, both show the Immune Columbia obverse crack between BI of COLUMBIA. I have been unable to locate these specimens, or any specimen with this crack, so we do not know what reverse is combined with it. Do you know of any specimen in any metal of the Immune Columbia, bearing the cracked obverse? If so, what does the "tail side" look like?

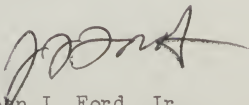
#3. Crosby says that the Machin's Mill mulings (Georgius III and Vermont obverses) were the last use to which the obverse Immune was put. How come all specimens seen of these have a perfect obverse die? Finally, how come the Crosby Plate coin obverse (with the crack) appears better struck than any of the mulings known?

Put all this in your Univac, and come back with all the answers.

It certainly was good to see you upon your last visit. Do you want me to send you the Attinelli now, or haven't you made arrangements for reproduction of any of its pages yet?

Hurriedly, and with best personal regards from all.

Sincerely,



John J. Ford, Jr.

JJF:dn

October 21, 1957

Mr. John J. Ford, Jr.
176 Hendrickson Avenue
Rockville Centre
Long Island, New York

Dear John:

Your interesting letter about your study of the Immune is at hand. You asked me three questions, which I answer, as follows:

1. My Nova, Crosby 2-A, is on negative No. 4812 and it bears no resemblance to the reverse of the Immune fake.
2. Crosby's Immune may be a planchet defect rather than a die break. The illustrations used in Evans is probably a picture of the Crosby coin. Evans used Bolen copies, fakes, and any other pictures. I do not know of any die break of that nature and my specimens do not have it nor do any pictures I have of other specimens have it.
3. The Immune die was recut substantially. The final "A" in "Columbia" has a curved cross bar on some pieces and a straight cross bar on others. The curve was probably the first. The "5" in the date was recut as it tilts right in some specimens and is vertical in others. The "8" was recut as its base was higher than other numbers. It looks as though the last use to which the Immune die was put was for the Machin's Mills mulings.

I am enclosing a copy of my notes on the differences between the Edwards copy and the genuine.

I read Attinelli from cover to cover so I won't need yours.

All I want from you is to see the Immune and your other Massachusetts silver phonies.

I hope I have been of some use to you.

Sincerely,

EJF/atb

New Netherlands Coin Co., Inc.

SUITE 401
1 WEST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

PHONES PLAZA 7-5245-6

November 26, 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Assistant Vice-President & Sec'y
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Yesterday I returned from the Michigan State Convention and found things as busy as usual. It is impossible to tell you how snowed under we actually are.

However, we are getting out today a complete set of the Kurtz & Allison Civil War Lithographs. We are sending you the best copies that we have and hope that you will find them satisfactory.

I probably confused you no end with my query concerning the Immune Columbia's. What I have seen is a piece in gold, with the broken obverse as pictured in Crosby, and the Edward's Reverse as illustrated in Crosby. This coin is struck over a British Guinea, dated I believe, 1785 or so.

I have seen the Kaplan coin, and am convinced that it is the work of Smith of Ann Street, this City, as is Kaplan's Higley. Will have to go into details with you later.

Very best personal regards,

Sincerely,

NEW NETHERLANDS COIN CO., INC.



John J. Ford, Jr.

JJF:gr

New Netherlands Coin Co., Inc.

SUITE 401

1 WEST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

PHONE 8 PLAZA 7 5245-6

DATE

5 1296
11/26/57

SOLD TO

Mr. C. P. Ferman

QUAN.	DATE	DENOM.	CONDITION	REMARKS	AMOUNT
				<u>Civil War Pict's</u>	\$
				Williamburg	
				Fort Sanders	
				Wilson's Creek	
				Vicksburg	
				City Point	
				Fort Donelson	
				Campin Hills	
				Franklin	
				Fair Forks	
				Stone River	
				100 5-er	50 -
				Handling +	
				TAX POSTAGE	2 50
					<u>52 50</u>

December 4, 1957

Mr. John J. Ford, Jr.
176 Hendrickson Avenue
Rockville Centre
Long Island, New York

Dear John:

Immediately on receipt of your letter about the gold Immune I checked up on the specimen in the government collection and see that it is, apparently, from the original dies. Your piece is probably an attempted duplication. It would be nice to find out that it was genuine. In any event, you promised to send me your copy of the Immune in silver and also the counterfeit Massachusetts silver which you have. I need these very definitely for some writing I am doing. Please give me your cooperation.

Kindest regards, and thanks.

Sincerely,

JPW/atb

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

Numismatist

176 HENDRICKSON AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L.I., N.Y.

December 14, 1957

Mr. Eric P. Womack
C/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
100 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Enclosed you will find the following Immune Columbias for your study and observations:

1. The "Edwards" struck copy in silver. This is one of two known specimens, the other is the Appleton piece, now in the Mass. Hist. Society. A photo of the Appleton example (illustrated in Crosby) is also enclosed.

2. My expression in OLD, combining the original obverse and the "Edwards" reverse before rusting and deterioration. As the ticket with the piece indicates, this coin was purchased in 1865 by "G.B." (a prominent Salem numismatist of the day) for Fifty-Three Pounds (\$265.) from (George F.) Seavey, who later unloaded the remainder of his collection to Loring A. Parvelee.

3. Fred Boyd's specimen of the Immune - George III mule from the Ryder coll., undoubtedly the finest piece extant.

4. An Immune obverse, heretofore unknown to me, combined with an equally odd Nova Constellatio reverse.

5. The same queer Immune obverse, combined with a GEORGE III obverse, also somewhat unkosher in appearance. This, like the last, from the Boyd Collection, originally ex Newcomer of Baltimore. (Both Nos. 4 and 5 received a big play in the Newcomer inventory.)

Also, I'm enclosing a photo of the "Naplan" fake, which is a hand engraving job, undoubtedly by the famous Smith of Ann St., N.Y.C., known for his '93 Cents AMU and several colonials. Smith obviously copied (or worked over) an impression from Edward's combination of dies.

It is my feeling that the so-called Edward's reverse die was contemporary, and was discovered about sixty-five years after its manufacture by someone who cut a new obverse to make the then rare and popular Immune's. While I may be biased, the OLD strike looks pretty good to me.... in fact, a helluva lot better than Boyd's two copper pieces with the different obverse.

Please work on this problem.. perhaps you will end up with an article on "The Mysterious Immune Columbia Patterns."

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

Lastly, I'm enclosing a piece of emergency script of Clark, Embler & Co. This looks as of the period, but I don't get the "A.C.S." monogram upon the reverse... do you? I have checked the "Jefferson Territory" end of it, which is of that date and area on the nose.

Finally, I wish you would check all of Freddie's Massachusetts struck copies and alterations. I only have two or three, and do not know where they are, but hope to get to them. F. C. C. and the A.M.S. have 90% of these, and are the boys to work on.

Hope you have fun with the enclosed.

Very best personal regards,

John J. Ford, Jr.
John J. Ford, Jr.

Christmas 1957

Preliminary comments on IMMUNE COLUMBIA pieces

The gold specimen submitted by Ford is struck over a late period English guinea just as is the specimen in the Smithsonian. The obverse is from the same die as the admitted originals with a die break from the left scale pan to the edge between B and I. Crosby shows the same die break in his illustration. The period after the date is smoothed off, the box on which justice sits is tooled after striking and the reverse seems to have been smoothed after striking. The reverse die is the same as found on the Ford silver piece, the Mass Hist. piece and the Crosby illustration of the "copy". The smoothing may have been to eliminate evidence of rust spots. The basic problem is to determine whether the reverse die is genuine or not.

The Ford and Mass Hist silver pieces in silver have identical dies (Crosby illustration probably from the later). Both dies were rusted before striking. The Ford piece has crushed edge milling and its size indicates that it was struck from an English florin of Victoria. The spacing of the edge milling also conforms. The thickness of the Victoria florin was reduced by filing of both surfaces and file marks appear on both specimens. The problem is to determine whether the obverse die is genuine and whether the reverse die is genuine.

The obverse die on the Ford and Mass Hist silver pieces was previously used on the uniface copper pieces of Boyd. On the ctf. British 2d planchet the uniface die has a curved crossbar on the A. On the Nova planchet the uniface coin has a straight crossbar on the A indicating the die was recut between those striking. When finally used for the Ford silver piece the die was ~~xxx~~ further cut at the date and the leaves adjacent to it. The uniface pieces show no rust.

If the obverse of the uniface pieces and the silver pieces is genuine it would have been made with the same device punch in England as the admittedly genuine obverse. Although each device is recut after punching all dimensions, angles and the juxtaposition of the flag, the scales, the base and justice are identical. The lettering punches are generally the same even though the C and the 5 are quite different. Both obverse and reverse should be either genuine or both should be counterfeit. Since the obverse appears genuine and there is no reason to doubt the reverse it seems as though these were a spare set of dies prepared in England and sent to America in case a franchise was obtained - in the same manner as the genuine obverse was sent to America after being combined with Nova dies from regular production of Novas. The Vermont muling and George III mulings show that at least one IMMUNE die came to America. Possibly two reverse Nova dies were sent to America - the reverse of gold and silver restrikes and the reverse of the 1786 Nova. This would make two obverses and two reverse for IMMUNE-NOVA striking.

It therefore seems rather logical that all IMMUNE dies are genuine except the Kaplan forgery (which is too crude for consideration). The new reverse is apparently genuine. Apparently someone found or obtained at least three dies (2 obv and 1 rev). The obverse die was broken after striking the gold item and perhaps others and then a new obverse was used to make the balance of the restrikes. The uniface pieces were probably made many years earlier before the dies rusted. More facts are needed: Does the Mass Hist piece have a crushed milled edge? All IMMUNES in sales catalogues and in other collections should be checked for the reverse die as well as the die break on the obverse.

This is really an exciting new situation. Please, John and Walter, give me any further thoughts you have on the subject. For a coin classified as a forgery to turn out to be a restrike from genuine dies is in the "man bites dog" category

Crosby

Flash: Just found an ~~ea~~ in my junk of Crosby VII-30 with obverse showing the heavy diebreak and with either rust spots or imperfections

Christmas 1957

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Eric.

Flash: Just found an electro in my junk of Crosby VII-30 with obverse showing the heavy diebreak and with either rust spots or electro imperfections

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

Numismatist

176 HENDRICKSON AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L.I., N.Y.

Sunday,
January 5, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Both F.O.C.P. and I have your preliminary comments on the Immune Columbia riddle. Freddy called me up and seem convinced that my gold impression was kosher; of course, he is working on intuition. My interest is to approach this whole problem scientifically, as I know yours is.

This Tuesday, I leave for ten days at The Florida "F.U.N." Convention and a vist at the Criswells in Pass-A-Grille. I thought it might be wise to give you my thoughts on your preliminary comments before I left, so that you could digest them. I'll go down your observations, and give you my slant as I do.

He is right that the coin is cleaned

About the gold impression. I violently disagree with you that either obverse or reverse was tampered with after striking. The periood after the date was not smoothed off, but is clearly visible as a poor strike. You evidently confuse the odd appearance of both sides with an undertype with the appearance of tooling. The box on which Justice sits (obverse) has not be re-engraved or doctored. Impressions from many dies have an odd appearance when struck over other pieces. This I know, as I have had decalettes struck over numerous sundry coins with highly interesting results. From what Walter and I can observe, the gold impression was taken from clean, unruisted dies, which may have been recut abit before striking, but which were certainly used (on the gold coin) when new. Finally, to our 10x Zeiss loops, the surface of the gold coin was not tampered with after manufacture.

Ford was wrong

Secondly, Eric, I disagree with you concerning the "Edwards" obverse (my and Mass. Silver pieces) in comparison with the two Boyd copper impressions. Both obverses are entirely different. Take another look! Now about the box on which Justice sits- note the folds of crapery. Look at the placement and spacing of the legend. Of course, some bright boy might have altered the "Edwards" obverse after earlier use, as on Freddy's coins. However, I think, utilizing twenty years of experience, and basing my thoughts on style, general appearance and overall fabric, that BOTH the "Edwards" obverse and the obverse of Fred's coins are FALSE.

Here is what I think the story is, in chronological sequence.

1. Gouverneur Morris pushed his idea of silver patterns for a decimal coinage in 1782-83. The 100, 500 and 1,000 unit patterns made in Phila-

Philadelphia by Eckfield, Cranwick and Inbois were the result of this.

2. Gouverneur Morris, on the side, and in an attempt to establish either a "Mint of North America" or an actual coinage, had Thomas Wyon of Birmingham, England manufacture the Nova Constellatio copper, which circulated in the States out of New York. Somebody made money out of the promotion, but I think Morris only wanted some kind of an actual circulating copper coinage.

3. Wyon, as a speculative venture, cut a sexy obverse (the DAME COLLEGE) to rule with his Nova Constellatio reverse (=) ⁷⁰ and shoot for a contract or franchise coinage.

4. Wyon's first obverse DAME after a trial striking of a gold coin, and a few copper pieces.

5. Wyon cut a new obverse, almost identical to the first, by hand, although the suggestion might be made that he used a hub, and in all may have made two, or even three identical obverses. (CORRECTION)

6. Impressions from the broken obverse were made with two different reverses.

7. The gold strike stayed in England, along with all but one of the copper strikes with the broken obverse. These had no promotional value.

8. Wyon went ahead with his regular (known) Dame Columbia productions, and shipped all (almost all) the results to America as samples.

9. The (at least one) unbroken DAME COLLEGE obverse, this die having yielded and become partly concave, was brought over, ending up re Atlee, at Machin's Mills.

10. The reverse (used for the Ford gold impression) either stayed in England, or was also brought over. It probably stayed in England.

11. About 70 years after it was made, the aforementioned reverse was discovered well rusted, and since an obverse was unobtainable, a new one was cut. Singleton probably made and had Edwards "issue" this fabrication, or else Dr. Edwards produced the whole thing in New York, having discovered the old rusted reverse here.

12. At about the same time, another operator, either had made (which I believe) or else discovered (which I doubt) the "Foyd" obverse, and produced the two Newcomer-Foyd mules. These were made apparently for sale to some eloh, being wornoppers (of seemingly appropriate background) as a base. Judging from the poor, poor (and already half shot) reverses on the Newcomer-Foyd specimens, I feel they were made by someone (once he had the obverse made-up or found) who had never seen a genuine DAME or even a mule.

Going on, we can figure out some angles to substantiate the above....

A- The mules were made at Machin's Mills in 1789, or even as late as 1790-91. They are from worn and rejected dies, usually on poor, small and crude planchets. My gold impression is not from a worn or damaged obverse, particularly an obverse partly concave and then banged up by use on too small plans. The obverse die used on my coin was clean and fresh, although broken.

B- Lot #2364 of the 1867 Wickley sale contained an Dame Columbia in silver, described as genuine, and in beautiful Inc. condition. This was bought by Appleton (Ass. Hist. Society coll.) for \$40. Ken Pressett feels that Wickley was the jerk who bought the forgery.. we both wonder if Appleton knew the difference before Crosby wised him up. One Edwards fake to Wickley, another (the Carroll medal) Edwards to Bushnell. The two biggest suckers of the day taken simultaneously. Both frauds of excessive rarity, only two examples presently known of each.

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

C- The reverse on Crosby's plate ~~DOWN~~ undoubtedly was one of the regular Wyon reverses used on the Nova coopers. If not, Crosby who knew his Nova Constellatio dies inside out, would have reported it. He certainly would have known if the reverse combined with the broken obverse die was identical to Appleton's lemon. This checks out with your electro.

D- Most early electrotypes show bubble or pit flaws from sloppy work. These do not prove that the original coin used had similar marks. On the contrary, rust marks show on strikings around letters and in odd spots where cleaning might miss them. Your electro doubtless shows defects right out in centre field.

E- My gold strike was purchased in 1865 by the sharpest collector of his day, who went after pieces either unknown to everybody else, or trick items. His collection included an Rosa Americana Pattern of 1724 in GOLD, a 1800. Humbert Octagonal plug, and other super coopers. The man he bought it from had English connections... the deal was in Pounds, and Seavey never handled a queer coin, by error or otherwise, to my knowledge. He picked up only the best, and sold only the best to Parmelee. The full story of GB (the initial purchaser of my gold Immune) will lend credence to anything he owned.

I could go on all afternoon Eric.... my mind is too far ahead of the type-writer. Digest all this, and let me know what you think.

Incidentally, I have started to clean out our back room, and hope to get you squared away in the near future.

Hurriedly, and with very best wishes to you and yours for 1958.

The Enthusiast..



John J. Ford, Jr.

January 12, 1958

Mr. John Ford
Rockville Center, N.Y.

Dear Enthusiastic but stubborn John:

I enjoyed your comments about the IMMUNE very much and I have given much further thought to the problem at hand. If I didn't respect your thinking so much I wouldn't try to change your slightly inflexible mind. I am wrong many times, but I am glad to yield when shown the light. Perhaps I am wrong on the smoothing of the rust spots on the gold piece but it is possible with rouge.

The Boyd uniface IMMUNE is positively from the same obverse die as the "Edward's" silver pieces. You say no, I say yes. When I return them you will agree. There has been progressive die cutting between the uniface and the Edwards. Since the Edwards obverse is made with the same device punch as the admittedly genuine IMMUNE obverse, the Edwards obverse and the Boyd uniface are from genuine dies. The Boyd uniface was probably made in England when the die was being cut. They are test strikes and it seems logical that the "Edward's" die was finished in 1785. It was not used on the silver pieces until the Victorian period.

My electro of the broken die IMMUNE obverse with the with the Nova reverse is beautiful and clear. It must exist as Crosby's picture indicates. There would be no point in mixing dies on an electro. In other words the Nova reverse survived 1789 when the Ryder 1 and the GEORGIUS III mullings were struck with the die in America. The dies might not have rusted for quite a long period and so the broken die pieces might not have been made until much later and the die probably did not break until that later use.

It seems to me that the Smithsonian gold IMMUNE which Stickney obtained the day before he traded it for the 1804 dollar is a restrike from genuine dies and so is the gold piece with the Edwards reverse. Nobody got hurt in the trade as it was fake for fake. Stickney was too smart to part with a genuine unique piece for a fake. He knew the gold IMMUNE was a restrike. Birmingham would never have made a miserable overstrike so that the lettering of a guinea would show through, particularly if they were making samples to get a coining franchise. They were craftsmen, not slobs as you would say. The gold pieces were made by whomever had the dies in the nineteenth century. The known IMMUNE die cracked at that time ~~six~~ making a copper piece I presume, the gold pieces having already been struck. The restriker made a gold piece with each reverse first, using the same guinea undercoin.

Following all this the dies must have rusted so when the second round of restriking came off the rust spots showed on the silver pieces. We still have to check the Mass Hist and the Smithsonian pieces for rust spots.

This restriking could have taken place either in England or America. The Birmingham diemakers usually made a pair of dies in duplicate for the American franchise pitch. They could have sent

four dies to America, two IMMUNE and two NOVAS. None were used at Machin's Mills except the one IMMUNE when they ran out of reverses to go with left over bust obverses. These dies were later found and the restriking began. I AM SURE YOU KNOW THAT THE LIBERTY NATUS was restruck in silver with both reverses AND ONE OF THEM IS STRUCK OVER AN 1822 U.S. QUARTER. This shows that the Machin's Mills dies were kept and used for restriking.

It is possible of course that the unused dies were sent back to England when the franchise was not obtained. If this occurred then the NOVA reverses would not have had to be sent to America in the first place. The restriking could then have been done by the ones who got hold of the Birmingham dies.

I am of the belief that Singleton would never have turned out poor coins for his frauds. If he made the new NOVA reverse attributed to him he never would have made the gold piece over a guinea and he never would have let his dies rust before making the silver pieces or use Victorian florins for the silver pieces with the edge milling showing. Singleton was a top craftsman and one should not despoil his "good" name by attributing poorly made coins to him after one assumes he made such wonderful dies. There is no Edwards as you know as he was the not too innocent front man.

This is the most fascinating problem I have had in a long time and should be the subject of a interesting article. I am glad Freddy is in on the fun. I am ready to take your next blast so lay on MacDuff and damned be he the first cries "Hold, enough". This is your mystery but if you want me to write it up with you or alone or to help in any other way please let me know. You are quite mysterious about the source of the coin. If it came from England originally that is important because of where the restriking was done. You know the old adage about being beware of unique coins so I am not impressed by the 1724 Rosa in gold or the \$100 slug etc, other than to know that each must stand on its own merits.

Hope you had a successful and enjoyable trip to Florida and that you instilled that gang with some of your enthusiasm for Confederate issues. They are so steamed up now that I wouldn't be surprised to see them offer to redeem all Confederate notes to prove the honor of the South.

Best regards from

P.S. Do you have photos of all of the coins you sent? I have the two uniface taken by A.N.S. many years ago. Have you had your silver and the new gold one taken? I would like to picture them if you havent.

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

Namismatist

176 HENDRICKSON AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L.I., N.Y.

Sunday,
January 19, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

On Thursday I arrived home from Florida, and on Friday I received your letter of last Sunday re the fascinating IMMUNE problem.

As we throw the ball back and forth on this deal, we will logically arrive at concrete conclusions. I am not stubborn Eric, and am willing to revise my thoughts as we go. However, I feel you are wrong in several instances, as I now feel I have ^{been} wrong in trying to solve the chronological production of these pieces. Let me try again-

1. I insist that my gold strike is a contemporaneous impression from clean, untraced dies, untouched after striking. There is ~~not~~ ^{no} doubt in my mind that the undertype, i.e. the Guinea, was dipped in acid before striking, giving the final strike a bright appearance.

2. Since I did not study Freddie's two copper pieces in comparison with my silver "Edwards" to any extent, before sending them all on to you, I will buy your idea that the obverse on all three is identical, though retouched and altered slightly prior to the "Edwards" silver impression.

3. However, I violently disagree with you about when the two Lloyd uniface pieces were made. Forget please, the idea that these are contemporary "test strikes." They bear a very close resemblance to the produce of C. W. Petts and friends, circa 1860. Where in the hell would Lyon find a badly worn Nova Constellatio in 1785 to test strike over? Why would he make an Immune obverse with a George III (non kosher) obverse... to imitate a Machin's Mills idea that wasn't thought of yet? No sir... some jerk made Freddie's two pieces about a century ago (or earlier), in crude imitation of the two "regularly known" Immune types.

4. Going along on this idea, we will assume that the silver "Edwards" was struck last. I would say about 1865. Even if this obverse is genuine, the manufacture of the silver strikes was shady. Thus, Crosby called it a "copy," although he was a little hesitant. The first record of sale we believe is 1867 (Wickley to Appleton). Since the "Edwards" silver was a little on the home made side, let us assume that the good Doctor really did make it, shortly before his death.

5. If the "Edwards" obverse was made in 1785, as you say (and you are probably right), it was unadopted. The chances of our locating an original strike of this obverse (in any metal) combined with any reverse, is remote. Since the obverse is contemporary, the reverse must be also (as you imply).

No
it isn't
6. You do not spell it out, but I rather that your electro of the broken die obverse I-ONE is compared ^{comparable} with the so-called "Edwards" reverse. If so, we have a copper impression identical to my gold strike. If not, I'll wager one exists someplace.

7. Turning up to this point: Some Wright Boy, obviously over here, located the unadopted "Edwards" obverse in good shape. Maybe it was found in England circa 1850, or maybe it was here alot earlier, but in any event, the Boyd uniface pieces look to me as if they were made here. After the two simulated I-ONE's were made to sell to some simoleton, the obverse was discarded. It rusted somewhat, and was unearthed a second time. After a little die work, it was combined with the Nova Constellatio reverse that accompanied the Machin's Mills obverse over in 1789; and two "Edwards" strikes in silver were taken. Doesn't it seem odd to you that Freddie's uniface coins have always been together... isn't it logical they were sold that way initially, and stayed together?

8. To my way of thinking, the biggest single error in your analogy, is the assumption that the Smithsonian gold I-ONE is a restrike. The restrike coins have (or anywhere on our market) in 1913 and then jumped ⁹⁹⁰⁰ 9900 strike for bullion value? How silly can you get Eric? Stickney obtained his I-ONE from Beebe & Parshall's Bullion Exchange, 221 Wall St., N.Y.C., on May 1, 1912. He didn't even know what he had, or how rare it actually was! In his (Stickney's) letter of 3/2/67 to Moran, he states- "one piece of which, has since been proved to be of ascending rarity: the 'I-ONE' Columbia in gold, 1785-." Stickney's trade with Beebe's was not coin for coin, they both obtained several coins. You overrate Stickney, who might have been a pioneer numismatist, but who in many instances acted the knook. He was a big sport, picking up "rare coins I was in search of, at par," from his "friends, the Bullion dealers. Speaking of fakes, lot 2930 was a struck friend in the Stickney sale, and fooled both the old man and Henry Chapman.

9. Sir-Inchins did make considerable over-trikes, just to show (at a hasty glance) what a gold impression would look like. (This has been done before and since, at both bigger and smaller institutions... like say the Philadelphia Mint!) They did not make gold coins to submit for a franchise.. do you know how tough gold planchets were to get in Sir-Inchins in 1785? Do you actually believe that these gold over-trikes were anything more than an afterthought, almost on the piece of aspruce level? If you find more spots on the Smithsonian gold impression I'll buy you a new hat!

10. I'll bite on the Machin's Mills restrikes. Tell me about the LIT-ER MATHS restrikes with both reverses, and particularly about the one on the 1822 quarter. This I want to hear more about. Are you sure Jim Tolen hasn't confused the issue a little here?

11. I have photos of my Edwards silver piece, A.S.B. just photographed it. How about prints of Freddie's pieces; I do not have any! My gold I-ONE has not been photographed, so you can go to it. How about your asking A.S.B. for the needed prints for both of us?

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

12. I am not mysterious about the source of my gold piece. It was obtained from the grandson of a collector (initials GS), who purchased it in 1865 from George T. Seavey. The price was Fifty-Three English Pounds, and I understand that Seavey got it for "2" from England. I have promised not to reveal who "GS" was, but you can find him in "Howie's Rarities"... he was a Salem, Mass. collector. Incidentally, Seavey got Parmelee in business, and DID NOT ever handle a restrike, from what I can make out.

13. From what I now know, "GS" knew more about coins than any other collector of his day, particularly the old wind bag from his home town, Mr. Stickney. He proved his knowledge by what he bought... including pioneer of the soft fantastic interest and rarity. This when Stickney didn't even know about the "new issues" out west.

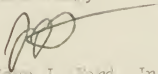
If you want Eric, send P.C.T.B. photostats of my end of this correspondence, as I haven't made any extra copies. Just sending him your slant takes some of the fun out of it for him.

It would make me happy if you would write this mess up, mentioning me if you want, but permitting me to go over your "final draft". I have enough deals of my own on Pioneer, which would keep me from doing the T. B. U. S. up all or part way. The best that I can do is shoot thoughts at you, and let you give me the "backluff bit".

Any thing that you finally do will need enlargements of all the pertinent coins. We had better get after the gold piece in the Smithsonian in that regard.

Now that you have my blast for today, lets have yours.

Sincerely,



John J. Ford, Jr.

P.S. Your wanted Virginia 1800. of 1861 is a forged proof. Why don't you let poor old Green, the Virginia specialist have it? He'll pay enough!

P.P.S. Florida isn't bad, but I like Havana.

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

Namismatist

176 HENDRICKSON AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L.I., N.Y.

March 3, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Not having heard from you in reply to my long letter of January 19th last, I can only assume that I insulted you, or else you are really in a quandry about the Immune situation. Assuming that you are a hard man to insult, I can only believe it is the latter.

In the Immune connection, I have some new information. While going through my rather extensive files for some U.S. Assay Office statistics, I found a memo from Walter Breen made in 1951, while working (?) at the A.N.S. It gives the exact weight of the Appleton, Mass. Hist. Soc. "Edwards" in silver as 105.2 grains. It also gives that coins' history- "MHS, ex Appleton, ill. on Crosby Pl., ex Haseltine, ex Cogan sale of 9/24/74, lot 516 at \$16.00. Also, "Cogan found and destroyed the dies."

I called WB up immediately about this, and he only vaguely remembers finding this dope while compiling a card file on U.S. Colonials during his brief stay in the mausoleum. Could it be that Appleton purchased his Edwards in the Mickley sale, found it out to be slightly non-kosher, and placed it in Cogan's auction to unload it, buying it back? WB thinks the important notation about Cogan and the dies was an annotation in some sale catalog, perhaps Cogan's of 9/24/74. I do not have this catalog, but think the description might be interesting.

Do we know anymore than before?

As usual, we are busy as the devil. What a life!

Very best personal regards,



John J. Ford, Jr.

March 4, 1958

Mr. John Ford
176 Hendrickson Avenue
Rockville Centre
Long Island, New York

Dear John:

I just received a letter from Olga Raymond indicating that she had disposed of her library. Did you acquire it? or who did?

I am enclosing, for your enjoyment, two colored slides of the Immune pieces. I will send you black and white prints and the coins, in due course.

I understand you have inquired at Smithsonian and some person from New York appeared there. Who is that other person? I am still working on the puzzle.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/tb

March 7, 1958

Mr. John Ford
176 Hendrickson Avenue
Rockville Centre
Long Island, New York

Dear John:

This Immune situation requires further work, as you suspected. You can't irritate me for long, regardless. The color slides of the coins I am sending are beautiful.

I have written Smithsonian and will get the information as to the gold coin which I now believe is in the same class as your coin, probably a restrike.

I have carefully re-examined my electro with the so-called die break extending down through the scales to the border and I now feel that this is a planchet defect in the original coin from which this was taken. It is a straight line and it looks like a fold in the copper more than a die break. If this is it, it will solve many of our problems. We ought to get Walter's list at A.N.S. to check the photos of all Immunes in catalogues in the past. In so far as Cogan having located and destroyed the dies, this fits in with the thinking that they are not Edwards counterfeits but merely restrikes. Since I am supposed to write this matter up I guess I will have to get the information from A.N.S. on the September 24, 1874 sale of Cogan's. If Freddie has the catalogue he will send it to me for examination. I think we are getting closer and closer to the solution.

It is real fun to investigate this situation.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

TABLE ADDRESS
NUMISMA NEW YORK



TELEPHONE
AUDUBON 6 3030

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
(FOUNDED 1858 • INCORPORATED 1865)
BROADWAY BETWEEN 155TH AND 156TH STS.
NEW YORK 32, N.Y.

March 11, 1958.

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Ass't. Vice-President,
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
400 Washington Ave., St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman,

Thank you for your letter of March 6. I regret that we have no want list of auction sale catalogues which can send you, but if you have any list of items obtainable we can always check it against our holdings. Concerning the Fonrobert and Murdoch catalogues, we do have the latter in duplicate; since we were not sure from your letter whether you wish to borrow or purchase them we will await further instructions from you. Duplicates of the Mason Stamp and Coin Journal we do not have, ditto Fonrobert.

As requested in your letter of March 7 to Mr. Clark, we are sending on loan our copy of the Cogan sale of Sept. 24, 1874, and trust it reaches you without undue delay.

With regard to your question involving the 1785 Immune Columbia-Nova Constellatio coins, I find that they are not picked up in Breen's manuscript list, and in this connection Mr. Clark asks me to tell you the specimen in the ANS collection is the Edwards cent listed at the top of page 38 of Yeoman's "Guide Book of U.S. Coins". 11th ed.

Finally, the Centennial Publication is expected to make its appearance sometime in April.

Cordially yours,
Rich Breen
(Richard P. Breen)

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 11, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Mr. Zander has just handed me your letter addressed to him on February 18th. I shall try to answer the different questions you are asking concerning the 1785 Immune Columbia in gold.

The piece is struck over an English guinea dated 1775. The date is perfectly legible.

The weight of the piece is 128.7 grs.

The dies were not rusty.

There is no die break whatsoever down to the right from below the scales.

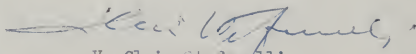
As you well know, this piece was picked up by Stickney on the New York Bullion Market and it shows all the ear-marks of a coin which has actually be in circulation. It is, of course, quite puzzling how it could have gotten into circulation.

I am sorry we have no photographs of this piece, but I will have some made as soon as possible. After my talk at the New England Numismatic Conference in Boston, where I illustrated this piece, I had to part with the photographs I had.

I would appreciate very much if you would be kind enough to let me know the result of your research in connection with the Fugio cent die at the Yale University. I am mainly interested in the history of the piece, also whether you were able to find any pieces actually struck with this die.

Hoping to hear from you at your convenience, I am,

Very sincerely yours,



V. Clain-Stefanelli
Curator
Division of Numismatics

March 13, 1958

Mr. V. Clain-Stefanelli, Curator
Division of Numismatics
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Stefanelli:

Thank you for your letter of March 11, 1958 with respect to the gold Immune Columbia.

The research I am doing indicates that the dies were used for restriking purposes into the Victorian period and the probability exists that your gold piece is such a restrike. Why Stickney parted with it, if he thought it was a rare coin, I do not know, unless he suspected as mentioned.

As you know, there is another 1785 Immune Columbia, in gold, with a different reverse also struck over a guinea. As soon as a thorough study can be made of all the facts, I will probably write it up.

I look forward to the receipt of a couple of prints of your piece and I would like them enlarged to two diameters if you are making them from existing negatives. This is one of the most fascinating subjects I have ever run in to.

Thank you for your sincere cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPM/atb

March 18, 1958

Mr. William Clark
American Numismatic Society
Broadway between 155th and 156th St.
New York 32, New York

Dear Bill:

In Dick Breaden's letter to me of March 11, 1958, he stated that you had an Edwards copy of the 1785 Immune Columbia-Nova Constellatio. These so-called Edwards copies are, in my opinion, from the original dies and I am enclosing a memo which describes the situation. Since there is a combination in existence of the so-called Edwards die and the so-called genuine dies, they are all of the same breed. I think they are all genuine.

It is very important for me to know all information concerning your coin. Does it show any rust spots on the die? What does it weigh? Does the edge have any milling, or design, etc.? I am not going to go into detail for the moment until I find out whether your dies correspond with the Edwards' counterfeit as illustrated in Crosby or whether it is the genuine piece as illustrated in Crosby. Will you look in Crosby and set me straight.

Thank you, very much, for sending me the negatives, which I am returning herewith.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

Nuismatist

176 HENDRICKSON AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L.I., N.Y.

March 22, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros. Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

About your letter of March 4th and the O.E.R. library.

Over the years, I obtained from Waite Raymond any books that he had that I needed. After he died, the few U.S. items left went to Edgar. The remainder, mostly foreign, went to Cathy Bullowa, who loves fine books and likes to handle them. (Please keep this last confidential.) The only big deal that Edgar has (that you SHOULD have) is a complete set of the A.J.N.

When I get moved into my new office and get my books arranged, you will have to come here and look them over, and make up a list of what you want. Then, over a period of time, we can fix you up.

Thanks for the transparencies of the Immune pieces. Don't forget the black and white prints.

We just picked up a coin you might like. It is the Parmelee example of the Silver-Centre Cent. Naturally, it is one of the finest extant (and there aren't many... most are clever fakes). An almost equal one was sold at the A.N.A. Convention in Philadelphia by Max Kaplan to Dr. James O. Sloss, Beaver, Pa. for \$1,350. or \$1,400. I forget which! We will figure up that crate of tokens and stuff you sent some time back against this if you want; what else do you have for a trade? Remember, a Silver-Centre brought \$450. or so back in 1921 at the Jenks sale, when gold proof sets were bringing little over face. Also, we have two pedigreed Baltimore Shillings! Do you have any Indian Peace Medals?

Do you know what I make out of the description of lot 516 in the 9/24/74 Cogan sale? (1) Dr. Edwards had the dies, but didn't take any impressions. (2) Some one else obtained the dies from the Edwards estate and made two or three in silver from the rusty things. (3) Both dies were originals, perhaps doctored up along the line. (4) My gold impression and the one in the Smithsonian are contemporary. and know what! This fits in with what I've been saying all along.

Haven't you,

John J. Ford, Jr.

March 26, 1958

Mr. John J. Ford, Jr.
176 Hendrickson Avenue
Rockville Centre
Long Island, New York

Dear John:

I have a perfect silver center cent and, therefore, will not need the one you have available. My Baltimore shilling is also good enough.

Before I can begin to write up the Immune Columbia problem I want you to come out from behind the bush as to the source and details of the gold piece which you sent. You gave me certain vague information, using initials, and assuming I know more about it than I do. Tell me in whose collection it first appeared and how it got where it did and, why have so much confidence in Seavvy. Maybe you didn't mean to be mysterious about the information you gave me but I still don't know whether you own it or some one else owns it - or what. I am not so interested in the present owner as I am in the previous ownership history.

I have A.J.N. virtually complete and both the old and new Coin Collector's Journal. I have many of the Chapman catalogues, with plates, now, thanks to your suggestion.

Above all, will you let me have the Immune as promptly as you can so that I can begin writing.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

CABLE ADDRESS
"NUMISMA" NEW YORK



TELEPHONE
AUDUBON 6-3030

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

(FOUNDED 1858 • INCORPORATED 1865)

BROADWAY BETWEEN 155TH AND 156TH STS.

NEW YORK 32, N.Y.

March 26, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric,

Serrated
It just so happened that I had taken a photograph of our Imune Columbia-Nova Constellatio and I fortunately found an extra print which I am enclosing. It does not show any rust spots. It weighs 5.496 grams or 84.8 grains. The edge is milled and the border is ~~crenulated~~ and is apparently of good silver. Crosby X-26 Edward's copy is a different die from our piece in that the top of the head appears to touch the C in Columbia. Also in Crosby on page 312 the rays on the Nova side are similar to obverse 54 with the small star in the legend missing here and not resembling the obverse 53 without the star. I would say that it is very similar to Crosby VII - 31. Off hand that is all I know about the piece and I hope the information will be of some use to you.

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William L. Clark
Curator of Mediaeval & Modern Coins

WLC:rb

this is VII-31 in silver

March 31, 1958

Mr. William Clark
American Numismatic Society
New York

Dear Bill:

Thank you for the information and the picture of the Society's silver Nova-Immune. The IMMUNE situation is very fascinating. Your piece is genuine (assuming any of the silver pieces are genuine).

The situation is that there were two ~~xxxxxx~~ dies with IMMUNE and also two with IMMUNIS. The first die is of the IMMUNE is found on the Vermont and George III coppers as well as on coins with the known NOVA reverses. The second die is known through some uniface ~~xx~~ strikings, two silver combinations with a new NOVA die (known as the Edwards copies) and that is all. A new gold IMMUNE has come to light with the first obverse (genuine) and the Edwards reverse (up, to now phoney). This wrecks the theory that the Edwards dies are etc. They are made with the same punches that the genuine ones are made with. The only problem is which coins are restrikes and which are contemporary. Dr. Edwards of New York had possession of the dies and Cogan said that he saw them destroyed. What happened before the destruction is anyone's guess.

The silver "Edwards" IMMUNES are struck on florins of Victoria in my opinion as the edge milling so indicates. There is one gold IMMUNE and one copper IMMUNE with a die break which took place after the striking of the Vermont IMMUNE muling. It is shocking to think that the Smithsonian specimen in gold may be a restrike along with many others and the Stickney exchange of the gold IMMUNE for the 1804 dollar was a fair exchange, fake for fake.

To help me on my project would you let me know the source of your coin? Would you look at the picture in the Jenks sale and see if that is yours?

In the Woodward sale of March 20, 1865 there two IMMUNES #2648 and #2649. I cannot tell what metal the second piece is. Would you let me know who bought them and the price they fetched if that is in your catalogue.

I hope I am not bothering you too much on my requests but I enjoy trying to untangle these problems.

I am enclosing a New England 6d which does not conform to any of your dies. You might wish a record of it. Please return it to me so I can send it back to the "innocent" dealer who sent it to me. I have no photo of it.

Kindest regards,

HEAD ADDRESS
NUMISMATIC NEW YORK



TELEPHONE
AUDUBON 6 3030

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

(FOUNDED 1858 • INCORPORATED 1865)

BROADWAY BETWEEN 155TH AND 156TH STS

NEW YORK 32, N.Y.

April 3, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric,

Thank you for your letter showing me the counterfeit NE sixpence which I am returning to you herewith. I do not know the background of our Immune piece and it is definitely not the Jenks. In our Jenks catalogue No. 5542 was bought by C. for \$32.00. It is silver and holed. No. 5543, presumably copper, was bought by S.H.C. for \$30.00. In the Woodward Catalogue of March 20th, 1865, No. 2648 was silver and sold to Zaroni for \$185.00. No. 2649 was sold to Appleton for \$45.00. I think this last piece must have been cooper, although it is not mentioned.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

William L. Clark
Curator of Mediaeval & Modern Coins

WLC:rb
encl.

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

Numismatist

176 HENDRICKSON AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L.I., N.Y.

April 5, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Thanks for your letter of March 26th.

We are sorry that you cannot use the Silver Center Cent nor the Baltimore Shilling.

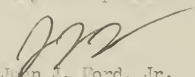
About the Immune Columbia gold impression: I own this piece personally (as if that makes any difference), having obtained it from a damn good friend who was in the Army with the owner during World War II. That gentleman is not a collector of any kind, but inherited the Immune Columbia from his grandfather. The Grandfather's initials were GB, and he was a Salem, Mass. collector. If you want to, you can look up the period 1860-67 in "Numisgraphics," and find out who GB was. I gave my word to keep the name confidential, and that I am going to do. My friend is a collector of regular U.S., and since he knows that the grandson has such things, he wants to leave the source alone. When you do find out who GB was, please do not publish the name. You can refer to him as a Salem, Mass. collector, and you can mention Seavey, but do not reveal this guy's grandfather's name. (If you have trouble with looking up the initials in "Numisgraphics," I'll give you the page number.)

Yesterday, I had lunch with Dr. Clain-Stefanelli. He agrees with me, the piece in the Smithsonian is no restrrike. Picker was the man who wrote him about their coin, at my suggestion. My letter of January 19th gives my slant on my gold Immune. Paragraph 12 of that letter tells you all that I know about the coin's pedigree.

There is not much point in your writing about the Immune problem, if you are going to call both gold pieces "restrikes." I would not have the money in my coin that I have, if I didn't feel that there was a good chance it was kosher. Once you damn the coin, there is no turning back; besides, I feel honestly... and it has nothing to do with my owning the piece... that it is contemporary, as is the one in Washington.

I have passed your second letter about our "Numisma" sale to G.W.W.

Very best personal regards,


John J. Ford, Jr.

April 9, 1958

Mr. John Ford
176 Hendrickson Avenue
Bockville Centre
Long Island, New York

Dear John:

Don't you realize that the reason I asked you about the gold Immune was that I suspected you owned it and did not want to hurt you. As long as you admit that it was made after 1790, there seems to be no way of determining when it was made.

I think the emphasis should be that they are from genuine dies rather than so-called Edwards counterfeits. As a matter of fact, if we call your gold one a restrike, we might just as well challenge many of the copper ones and silver ones in addition which are supposed to be genuine. I intend to build up your coin rather than hurt its reputation.

The die break is a definite die break, I have concluded, and is found on my electro as well, which electro was made from a different coin. My electro appears to have rust spots.

I am continuing to work on the matter.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

April 17, 1958

Massachusetts Historical Society
115 1/2 Boylston Street
Boston 15, Mass.

Gentlemen:

You have been nice enough, in the past, to furnish me with information with respect to my coin research and I have a few easy questions for you this time.

1. Would you be kind enough to look at your 1785 Immune Columbia obverse with Nova Constellatio reverse, in silver, (Crosby Plate 7-30 or 31), and tell me whether the edge has milling which is vertical or diagonal to the face of the coin and whether the milling has been smoothed down.

2. Would you let me know if there are tiny little lumps on the two surfaces of the coin caused by rusting of the die prior to striking. These rust spots would be readily noticeable in certain parts of the field.

I presume you only have one specimen of this coin but if you have two, please advise me.

I would also like to know if you have a copper specimen of either Crosby plate 7-30 or 7-31.

I have just submitted a monograph on additional material concerning Massachusetts silver coinage to A.N.S. and I know you will be interested in its content.

With sincere appreciation for your cooperation,

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1154 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON
15

April 22, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Warren G. Wheeler, the Assistant Librarian, has looked in our coin collection for the information you requested in your letter of April 17. He said that our 1785 Immune Columbia obverse with Nova Constellatio reverse has had its edge smoothed down. He did not find any tiny little lumps on the two surfaces of the coin.

Mr. Wheeler says that we do not have a copper specimen of either Crosby plate 7-30 or 7-31.

Sincerely yours,

*the picture of
the 1785 spec
supports this
statement about
little lumps*

Stephen T. Riley

Stephen T. Riley
Director

STR:RM

April 25, 1958

Mr. John Ford
176 Hendrickson Avenue
Rockville Centre
Long Island, New York

Dear John:

I am enclosing a copy of the letter I received from the Massachusetts Historical Society. Their information is not particularly clear and I am wondering who we could ask, in Boston, who would be smart enough to look at the coin and see whether the edge really was tampered with or whether it is a normal plain edge.

If there are no rust marks on the Appleton coin then it looks as though it was made substantially earlier than the silver coin you have.

Now I am going to have to find out whether the silver coin in Baltimore which has a plain edge is really from this die or from another.

As soon as I get a good picture of the coins I am going to return them. I have taken it several times without real success.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC F. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 13, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

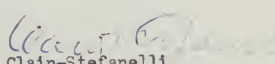
Dear Mr. Newman:

I am sending you herewith photo enlargements of our
Immune Columbia gold piece, as promised.

I hope that the photographs will prove satisfactory.

With best personal regards.

Very sincerely yours,


V. Clain-Stefanelli
Curator
Division of Numismatics

Enclosures

16
May 2, 1958

Mr. John Ford, Jr.
176 Kendrickson Avenue
Rockville Centre
Long Island, New York

Dear John:

I am enclosing herewith pictures of the gold and silver Immunes which I finally took with the proper light and exposure, after many attempts.

I am returning the gold Immune, the silver Immune, Freddie's two usiface Immunes and Freddie's Ryder No. 1 and I wish to thank you, very much, for having the opportunity to see them.

The primary problem is to locate the copper Nova with the heavy die break. This appears to have some rust spots on the obverse and I do not want to give up yet in locating it.

There is no doubt that your silver and gold coins are struck from genuine dies. The only question is, when? It appears that the Massachusetts Historical Society's silver piece is not from rusted dies and may have been struck long prior to your silver piece.

As to your gold piece the question is, again, when it was struck and I want you to examine the left foot of the "A" in "Nova", where you will see a line extending on both sides of the base. This line was a mistake in cutting the die and is very strong and clear on the silver piece. On the gold piece it seems to have been worked down by careful polishing. This lead me to examine the positions where rust spots appear on the silver piece to see whether it was possible for those rust spot positions to have been worked down on the gold piece and I would like you to study that to see if you believe that was done. The area around "SIB" was very spotted with rust marks on the silver piece and might have been polished off in the gold piece. There are evidences which appear to be polished down rust spots on the gold coin.

When I write the matter up I think I can make the article very interesting without going into the question as to when

-2-

Mr. John Ford, Jr.

16
May 2, 1958

the striking of the gold piece took place. It certainly was long after it had any use as a coin for the government. I believe it is just as valid as the Smithsonian piece - which probably was a strike subsequent to 1791.

As I have said before, it is one of the most interesting problems I have ever run into and I appreciate the opportunity to study it. I have checked all the records I can find as to all Immune Columbia pieces in auction sales in the past and all of them are very rare.

You study the coins a while and see whether you come up with anything new or different.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC S. SIMON

RW/atb

P. S. Other related photographs enclosed.

P.P.S. In the Woodward sale of April 28, 1863, Lot 2095, under the heading "Fabrications", it states: "Immune Columbia; rev. 'Georgius III., Rex;' one of two pieces struck from a pair of recent dies." This must refer to Freddy's copper pieces although, for the life of me, I do not see why the dies were recut in the cross bar of the A.

May 16, 1958

Mr. V. Clain-Stefanelli, Curator
Division of Numismatics
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Clain-Stefanelli:

Thank you for the enlargements of your gold Immune. This will make the subject of a very interesting write-up and the work I have done since last communicating with you shows that the obverse die of your piece broke when it was being used for restrikes. When these restrikes were made is still not clear but the dies, apparently, were still around at the time of the Civil War.

I have a group of American research projects pending and will look forward to asking for your help in connection with any specimens in the National collection.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EN/ab

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

Numismatist

176 HENDRICKSON AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L.I., N.Y.

July 8, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Joan and I shall arrive in St. Louis at 1:29 P.M. (St. Louis time) Saturday, August 23rd, aboard the City of St. Louis "Dome Liner". We shall be leaving St. Louis at 11:30 A.M. (St. Louis time) Sunday, August 24th, aboard the "Penn-Texas" train.

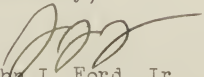
I understand that this letter will reach your home while you are abroad, but thought it should be waiting for you for reference.

If you do not mind, I would appreciate it very much, if you would obtain for my wife and I, a hotel room for the evening of August 23rd. I sincerely hope that this is not an imposition!

One more thing - I have a big thrill for you in connection with the "Immune Columbia" problem. Will talk with you about it when I see you.

Very best personal regards.

Sincerely,


John J. Ford, Jr.

JJF:dn

Train late
Paper Money
Ford
Rosas

March 6, 1959

If you have any of the above catalogues with plates I would like to borrow them. If you do not have them with plates please copy out the complete description of the items mentioned.

Lot 332, Samuel A. Bishop Collection, S.H. and H. Chapman, ✓
February 11, 1880. *Copper & of VII-30 Illustrated*

Lot 554, Chapman, May, 1885. ✓ *Copper v. of Illustrated*

Lot 1064^a, Woodward, April, 1886. *Turning* Collection, Illustrated. *has crack in edge*

Lot 877, Henry S. Adams Collection, October 30, 1876 ✓
(Cataloguer not known to me) *begin*

Lot 1036, Isaac F. Wood Collection, May 19, 1873
(Cataloguer not known to me)

Bangs Merwin & Co

*was a sale of IF Wood
in 1894*

*Dont say
silver or copper*

*Dont say
copper or silver*

May 19, 1958

Mr. Richard Breadon
American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 156th Street
New York 32, New York

Dear Dick:

Thank you, very much, for the name of George
H. Beane, of Salem, Massachusetts. I also will
be very pleased with the microfilm.

In working over the catalogues you sent me I
find that the Finotti Sale, which I was looking
for is Woodward's First Sale of November 11,
1862 and perhaps the name of the collection is
not there. Would you see if there is a duplicate
of that sale?

This is the first time I knew that you had a
numismatic library and if I can be helpful to
you, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMA

LYN/atb

JOHN J. FORD, JR.

Numismatist

176 HENDRICKSON AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L.I., N.Y.

May 22, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your letters of April 9th, 18th and 25th, and your recent one with enclosures, dated May 16th. I have been tied up trying to get a sale catalog out, along with the regular headaches. I will try to answer everything in rotation, and perhaps even get to the IMMUNE problem.

Answering your letter of April 18th: the Virginia Half Penny in our 51st sale is a new variety. Enclosed you will find a duplicate set of plates from the sale which clearly illustrates the aforementioned Half Penny. I do not have any duplicate contact prints on hand to send you, but I feel that the reproduction of the Half Penny and other Colonials on our plates should prove satisfactory for your purpose.

About the Massachusetts Historical Society silver piece. The only man in the greater Boston area with the intelligence to examine the Appleton specimen, and to determine the state of the dies, the planchet composition and fabric, and any other technical attribution of the coin, would be Dr. George Fuld, 24 Plymouth Rd., Wakefield, Mass.; please write Fuld a detailed letter spelling out exactly what you want to know. Messrs. Wheeler and Riley of the MHS are apparently nice boys, but not numismatists.

Many thanks for sending me pictures of the gold and silver Immunes, etc., as well as returning the five pieces.

I believe that when you locate a copper Nova, with the heavy die break, you will find that it does not have any rust spots. The "rust spots" on your electrotypes are apparently "bubble marks" made during the manufacture of the copper shell (s).

I have not carefully studied the die of my gold piece as suggested by you; however, Walter and I will do so and give you our final slant. I am convinced that the gold piece represents a contemporaneous impression, and that the two silver "Edwards" strikes as well as Freddie's two copper pieces, were struck later at different periods. I am also

Mr. Eric P. Newman - Page 2.

convinced that the Smithsonian gold piece is contemporaneous. I have been vindicated so far by the description in the Woodward sale of April 28, 1863, which calls Freddie's pieces correctly. There is little doubt that the "Edwards" pair of dies showed up after 1825, and that both straight and combination impressions were taken from them at intervals. Walter and I will write you a detailed letter on the IMMUNE problem at an early date.

I hope that you understand my thinking as I feel your article should contain the periods in which we feel the pieces were made, but I also do not want to condemn my piece as long as there is some reasonable doubt that it may be contemporary. I play on intuition very often, and since I was right on the two Boyd copper strikes, feel I am also right on the gold pieces. Let me try and prove it!

Some weeks ago I was a little unhappy that your interest in the three Fugio "Patterns" in different metals, the property of a Philadelphia dealer, was rejuvenated by the disclosure of my offer to him. I got the same business when I made a very fair offer on his set of ~~Somerset~~ ^{Somerset} Islands coins many months ago. I am not making any more offers to that gentleman (?), and all previous offers have long since been cancelled. For your information, I was willing to pay \$900. for the CONFEDERATIO which you obtained for almost half that figure. It would help a great deal on these situations, Eric, if you would try to work with me rather than against me, particularly when dealing with difficult people; the disclosure of my name earlier should possibly have suggested such a course of action to you.

Very best personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,


John J. Ford, Jr.

JJF:dn

EDISON BROTHERS STORES, Inc

June 19, 1959

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island
New York

Dear Mick:

My comments on the Immune in silver are frightening.

The size of the coin is virtually the same as the early U.S. quarters. The reading is the same as on the quarters. This is true of all pieces I know.

In the coin you sent there is a raised double band under the second O of CONSTELLATIO. It is identical in angle and position to a position of the drapery on the early U.S. quarters. This is on no other I know of.

In the coin you sent there is a raised dot between the folds of the flag. This is in the identical position of the berry on the branch on the reverse of the U.S. quarter. (The reverse would have to be diagonally offset from the obverse). This is on no other I know of.

There is no reason for the existence of a silver Immune as it conforms to neither the Morris plan, Jefferson plan, or U.S. mint weights. Those I know range in weight from 90 to 94 grains.

It therefore appears probable that all silver Immunes and gold Immunes are restrikes from genuine dies using U.S. quarters (silver) buffed down on the surfaces and English guineas (gold) beaten down. There is no basis to challenge the copper ones.

The Edwards' counterfeit is apparently a restrike from a different pair of genuine dies and struck on a Victorian florin.

The coin you sent is not the Bushnell piece as the insert indicates.

EDISON BROTHERS STORES, Inc

-2-

Mr. Richard Picker

June 19, 1959

This information is given to you in confidence and is not to be published or disclosed to any others, except the owner of the coin, if you wish, and on condition he does not disclose it except to a purchaser of the coin.

Please check these thoughts and let me know what you think.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

EDISON BROTHERS STORES, Inc.

September 11, 1959

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O. Box 366
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick:

You always provide one with lots of things to think about and I really enjoy it. One of your agents advises me that you wish a reprint of my Vermont article and the same is enclosed.

The Delaware bill which you sent me was unreadable as to date as only the "9" in the year of the reign of George II is legible. The bill, therefore, must be his 19th year or his 29th year. If it does not match with the bills of his 19th year, namely, 1746, then it must be of the issue of May 1, 1756.

The Continental cancelled note is reasonably unusual because most of them were burned, according to the records. The \$40 Continental is the most common of the counterfeits and is a nice specimen, really crude. The other two Continental bills are routine. All of these are being returned.

I am returning the two counterfeit halfpence which I was very glad to examine and please thank whoever turned them over to you to send to me. These are both Machins Mills pieces, both done in 1787 even though one is dated 1778.

I am returning the Granby piece which is perfectly genuine and I could murder the Indian, or otherwise, who drilled the hole in it. Maybe it was worn as a piece of jewelry for quite a while. Perhaps the man with the drill did not believe the motto "I am Good Copper".

The Virginia piece certainly looks new to me and I have another new Virginia piece which I have recently heard about. I will keep the Virginia piece until I take its picture and afford it the treatment it deserves.

EDISON BROTHERS STORES, Inc

-2-

September 11, 1959

Mr. Richard Picker

There is nothing I can do about the prices you dealers ask. If Riggs offered you the Immune for \$1,000 he is merely doing to you what you would do to him. If it doesn't sell the price will come down. If it does sell the price is established. Such is luck.

I look forward to receiving Cyril's pieces and if you want me to write him direct, I will.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

ERIS P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

October 13, 1960

Mrs. Henry Norweb
9511 Lake Shore Blvd.
Cleveland 8, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

According to the notes I made when you were nice enough to let me visit you, you had two Immune Columbia Nova Constellatio pieces, in silver, your No. 7273, weighing 79 grains, and your No. 15033, weighing 165 grains. Both of these were Crosby's VII-31.

Would you be nice enough to check the weights on these and see if I was correct in my notations or did I get one of those pieces mixed up with a copper coin in weight.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. FEWMAN

EPN/atb

9511 LAKE SHORE BOULEVARD
CLEVELAND 8, OHIO

October 18, 1960

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, 2, Missouri

My dear Eric:

The weight of the Immune Columbia
Nova Constellatio No. 7373 (not 2373)
is 79 grains or 5.10 grams. My No.
15633 is 91.96 grains or 5.96 grams.
The weight in grams is exact because I
did it myself. The grains I wrote
down as recorded at the time of pur-
chase. Both coins are silver but No.
7373 is plugged at the rim.

Sincerely yours

Emily May Norweb

Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

January 23, 1962

Mr. John J. Ford, Jr.
New Netherlands Coin Co. Inc.
1 West 47th Street
New York 36, New York

Dear John:

The 160h Dollar manuscript has gone to the printers and I hope to send you a galley or page proof in due course.

If you have any data which I do not have on the Immune Columbia gold pieces I will certainly be glad to give it study to make the section mentioning it more accurate.

I am glad that you have a research man and I wish you the best of luck in his development.

The 1913 Liberty Head Nickel matter is one which is being worked upon by someone else who, no doubt, has ten times more material than you have any idea.

To answer your specific question, Wagner advertised the five pieces for sale in the December, 1923, January-1924 and February-1924 Numismatist. This is after Brown advertised them. There is a connection between Wagner and Brown but I do not have the details.

Dick Picker has told me about some unusual Colonials and I have seen some of them.

With respect to reading a manuscript of Taxay, I, of course, stand ready to do that but it must be generally ready for publication before I feel I should do so, including footnotes.

Page 2

January 23, 1962

Mr. John J. Ford, Jr.

You will be amused by the last line in my 1804 Dollar book. It states that the 1804 is an antedated fantasy and that the King of American coins is an imposter. I am sure I will not be in any popularity contest with those statements.

Naturally, I will be glad to help you on the Standard Catalogue but Whitman wants me to help them and my poor old self, who prefers to engage in a hobby, is getting entirely too involved.

As a dignified member of the ANS Council, I would like to encourage you not to use the word "mausoleum" any more. Please stick to the initials "ANS" even though you might think that the "S" stands for "sepulchre" or "sarcophagus".

I hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

February 7, 1963

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

I sincerely appreciate the cooperation you have given me in letting me have the opportunity of seeing the unusual coins which you forwarded on January 5, 1963. I am returning them herewith.

My comments on them are as follows:

The Fugio 14-H is a new combination which I was previously not aware of and I congratulate you for having found it. You will get appropriate credit when my book on that subject ever gets written.

The Immunis Columbia piece dated 1786 is handcut in intaglio into the French sou in the same manner as Betts cut his fabrications. The fact that it comes from New Haven is even more conclusive that this might have been a Betts production. Betts would cut the obverse into one coin and the reverse into another. He would then harden these pieces. Then he would take a planchet, heat it up, and roll the planchet between the two designs he had cut into the two coins. The pressure of the roll on the three units together would put the design on to both sides of the planchet, would flatten the outside surfaces of the two die coins, and would bow and elongate the two die coins. You will note that your piece is rolled flat on the Louis XVI side and bows somewhat. Actually, the die cutting in this piece looks much better than Mr. Betts was able to do and therefore it might be the playwork of someone else.

The 1781 GEORGE III counterfeit is Batty 3823 and is English, in my opinion. I do not have it although I have two other varieties of the same date, all of which are English.

The 1777 Halfpenny has certain characteristics of being of American origin but its condition is so poor it is difficult

Page 2
Mr. Robert A. Vlack

February 7, 1963

to tell. It is a struck piece and I have taken its picture after much difficulty. It does not tie in to any of the Machin's Mills pieces which I am sure of but that doesn't mean anything.

The reason I was delayed in answering you is that I have become involved in a reproduction Ethics Committee for TAMS.

I certainly will enjoy anything you want to show me from time to time and if you ever wish to dispose of any of these interesting pieces, or others, I certainly would like the opportunity to acquire them.

Best wishes for your continued progress in your research.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

MEMO

FROM



Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

1/28/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for letting me have these for so long. Results are very inconclusive, but, at this point, I tentatively believe that the Silver ones would have to have been made prior to the 1785 Nova Constellation Crosby 1-B and 3-B. The Nova side is in a much earlier state than the Novas themselves. There is no indication that the Nova die has been restored. Until this is explained, the only assumption that I can come to is that we made an error in attributing the undertype of the Riggs piece. You only sent me a blowup of the ~~obverse~~ reverse portion of that coin. I would appreciate it if you would send the blowup of the obverse (if you have it) as well as prints of the obverse and reverse of the entire coin. Meanwhile, I'd like to hold on to your notes for a while, as well as the photos you sent. I have some notes, but, they're not conclusive, and too long to type. I expected you to call last night. The next time that you do, we can discuss this. The weight of the other coin that you asked about is $143\frac{1}{4}$ grains. More on that at a later date. I assume that you received the check.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Richard Picker'.

January 28, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island
New York

Dear Dick:

Immune { As I told you, I am not in a position to state whether the silver Immune Columbia pieces were struck in the 1785-1790 period, or at a substantially later period, although I inferred, in my talk in Atlanta, that there was substantial information on the Immune Columbia pieces which is not yet disclosed. Some of it I am aware of on condition that I do not disclose it, for the present, and that is not a pleasant position to be in.

The fact that the silver pieces come with vertical milled edges, diagonally milled edges, and plain edges, is indicative that they may be struck over other coins which have been smoothed down, but the most devastating evidence is the fact that one of them is struck over a United States quarter. A careful study should be made of the copper mulings with the Immune die so as to see if the silver pieces were struck before or after the mulings.

You tell me that Dave Bowers is going to England and that he can find out who made the Mark Newby forgeries. I think it is very important that he investigate the matter, including the Oak Tree forgeries, as well as the source of the Continental dollars in brass.

I have recently seen a Rosa Americana eletro which has the most beautifully toned surface and the most superb detail.

I do not know Benedetti, but if his coin could be borrowed, for study, that would be important.
Brass Cont. Del

-2-

Mr. Richard Packer

January 28, 1964

My file on who was forging the Mark Newbys, etc. points to one person who either is the bad boy or is a front for the bad boy. We can discuss over the telephone whether I should give you that name. David Spink is somewhat familiar with the situation although I do not know how deeply he wishes to probe. Dave ^{Brown} can do a great service by smoking out this situation. I am enclosing an extra copy of this letter in case you wish to send it to Dave ^{Brown}.

Sincerely,



ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

June 26, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick:

The 1801 dime, in my opinion, is perfectly good, even though the reverse is rough and looks as if it had been pickled. Others are also frosty. It is returned herewith.

Money

I am returning the five English shillings which you were nice enough to send me and the famous Immune Columbia with the indication of an undereoin. I call your attention, specifically, to the fact that the Immune Columbia definitely has an artificially applied edge which was not either done at the time of striking or done in a Gestaing machine. It is the exact thickness of a U.S. 25¢ piece but I cannot prove anything. It is substantially larger than a shilling and therefore would not have been made from a shilling.

Bill Anton telephoned me and asked me to call him back, which I did, at 2 A.M., his time, since he was going to be up all night with the elephants.

He told me that his uncirculated London token came from the Peck collection, which I have since learned is not the case and he has been misinformed. He told me he had another elephant token which he had for a number of years which was the same die as the one he obtained recently. I, naturally, asked him to give me its picture and its source. He told me what he paid for these tokens and after I picked myself up off the floor I was surprised that he was unconcerned as to whether they were genuine or not. He promised he would send me pictures of all of his elephant pieces along with their weights and reverse juxtapositions and I have already sent him the pictures of your pieces along with the comments, a copy of which you have already received.

I know that you will have a wonderful trip to Europe and I know that I will not have your luck in finding rare coins in England.

Page 2
Mr. Richard Picker

June 26, 1964

I will probably be digging in the archives, in Birmingham, to see what can be learned about Obadiah Westwood and Boulton.

I am taking a group of Kennedy half dollars as an emolument for those who deserve it and suggest that you might do the same.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

EPN/atb

MEMO

FROM



Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

7/1/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks very much for your letters and the returns. I guess that the Immune will require further study. We're going to try to get a good sharp picture of it that can be blown up. Then I'll return the coin, and we can work on it at our leisure. Will also try to shoot the edge. I'll have the Fugio shot here, and will send you a print. The coin isn't mine, and it'll take too long to get permission to send it. Anyway, I want to make an actual comparison to a 5-F. Don't you have one? I don't think that anyone ever represented Anton's piece as being from the Peck collection. I believe that he just wanted to think so. I hope that you get accurate weights, etc. and the prints he promised. The other token that he says are from the same dies, he says he bought from Les Merkin. Les does remember selling him one a year or two ago, and thinks he'll recognize the piece. Though you sent Anton prints of my tokens, I never received any. If you have some, I'd like two sets, one for Ted. I still have all of your Immune files together, and never did take notes of it. If I don't do it before I leave, it'll be done as soon as possible after I return. I'll be gone 7/16 - 8/6. What are your dates?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard Picker", written in a cursive style.

MEMO

FROM



Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON

NEW YORK 11507

AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

5/25/66

Dear Eric:

Unfortunately, I never did get to do much work on these. They've been stashed away awaiting some leisure that never came. I do recall that after studying your notes and some coins, I came to the conclusion that the reverses used on the silver pieces were of an earlier die state than on the original Nova Constellatio copper pieces. Also, ~~I~~ though I was able to examine a number of silver pieces, I didn't find any where the reeding matched that, or came close to matching that of any U.S. 25¢. I remember borrowing about 4-6 British shillings to see how the reeding matched, and to see if the undertype on the Riggs specimen, ~~w~~ould match some part of the design of one of them. I don't recall what I discovered about the reeding in relation to these pieces, but, in the few shillings that I was able to examine, I couldn't find a perfect match to the undertype, though some were close. I had borrowed these shillings from Jim Risk, describing my project, and he told me that there were so many varieties of these shillings that not finding a perfect match in the few that I examined, was not at all conclusive. Also, as I recall, it wasn't a perfect match to any U.S. 25¢ that I examined. How many projects do you work on at one time? PT3; N.H.; Col. Paper book; this; etc.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'R. Picker', written in a cursive style.

MEMO

FROM



Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON

NEW YORK 11507

AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

9/2/55

Dear Eric:

After speaking with you this PM, I put all my stuff in the vault for the week-end. Banks here are open Fri PM from 6-8. Forgot to pull out the NE III, but, will send it sometime next week. I did check on the Immune. I bought it 3/31/55 from Ed Rice, and sold it to Cyril 8/18/55. I just called Ed, and he remembered that he got it from Chapman. He didn't know where Chapman got it, but, it's possible that it might have appeared in one of his catalogues. I know that Ed had it for a while, and it's possible that he may have loaned, or consigned it to other people before I bought it. He had a silver one with it that he had purchased from a Stacks sale in the early 50s, and had then mounted in a plastic holder. I bought them as a pair. He exhibited them a few times at local meetings, and I know that he had tried to sell them to other people before I bought them, because after I did, I recall that a few people told me I was nuts for paying so much for them, and I'd never told anyone how much I paid, or that I even had them. I didn't want to press Ed for further info, but, the next time I see him, I'll ask him casually.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'R. Picker', written in a cursive style.

MEMO

FROM



Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON

NEW YORK 11507

AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

11/7/66

Dear Eric:

Nice seeing you, and all that, but, I have a heck of a lot to do now, with 3-4 days backlogged mail. Just learned something that might be very important. Give me a call when you can. I should be in every evening this week, except Wednesday, on which day I'll be home till about 8PM, and then out to bowl.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

*Told me ~~that~~ Cyril Hanley
Sold bond, his
Immune Columbia piece
to Bill Anton.*

*DAYS from about
7³⁰ AM - 2¹⁵ PM
after 4 PM*

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

July 12, 1967

Mr. John J. Pittman
4 Acton Street
Rochester, New York

Dear John:

You suggested that I write you with respect to what I know about John Ford's 1785 gold Immune Columbia piece:

The obverse is the regular 1785 Immune Columbia obverse with an apparent die break under the scale to the border. The reverse is the Edwards Nova Constellatio die. It is struck on a shield guinea (not a spade type). It weighs 127½ grains. I examined it in St. Louis in 1958 and photographed it.

There is only one known 1785 Immune Columbia ^{gold} piece and that is in the Smithsonian. It was received in 1843 from Stickney. It has no die break on the obverse and it has a different reverse.

The question immediately arises as to why John has had this coin for ten years and has never reported it to the numismatic public and has never had it listed in the catalogue.

Ford, in his January 19, 1958 letter to me, said that he got the gold Immune Columbia from the grandson of G.B., who was from Salem, Massachusetts, and was mentioned in the Atinelli book. This can only be George Blake. He also told me this same collection had some fabulous material, including unknown Pioneer pieces.

John wrote me also that his Immune Columbia gold piece had not been buffed or worked on. This was in answer to my statement which I put in writing that a line to the left of the base of A in NOVA had been buffed off. I also felt that rust spots had been buffed off. My reason for saying this was that I have a picture of the Edwards copy of the 1785 Immune Columbia, in silver, which John owns and which has the identical reverse die as is on the gold piece. On this silver reverse die I saw the line to the left of the A in NOVA complete and also saw the rust spots.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

Page 2

Mr. John J. Pittman

July 12, 1967

This whole thing mystified me so much that I could not make logic out of the matter.

To complicate the situation I subsequently saw a copper Immune Columbia piece with the so-called die break on the obverse and instead of being a die break it was a planchet crack. Naturally, the same planchet crack cannot appear on two coins, yet here it was on the gold Immune Columbia. The obverse of the gold Immune Columbia is the same as this copper piece with the crack but the reverse is not.

The so-called Edwards copy of the Immune Columbia in silver is a restrike from genuine dies, in my opinion, which dies were rusted at the time it was struck.

John has an old tag reading "Immune Columbia 1785 Seavey to 1865 £53 G.B." Whether this is for the silver Edwards copy or the gold piece, I do not know.

It might be worth while to inquire as to these matters because the gold piece is definitely buffed next to the A in NOVA.

This gives rise to an inquiry as to whether the gold piece could have been made from forged dies, the obverse taken from the copper Immune which had the planchet defect, and the reverse from the Edwards silver Immune.

If you have the opportunity to inquire with respect to these matters it should be worth while.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

October 11, 1967

Mr. Don Taxay
Chase Manhattan Bank
Money Museum
New York

Dear Don:

What a pleasure to indulge in questions and answers with you again. It is a pleasure to help you and it is a pleasure to have you help me.

I am enclosing a photocopy of the letter from Samuel Broome to Matthew Boulton, as you requested.

With respect to my counterfeit Nova, I enclose a print of one side but do not have an extra print of the other. It is on ANS negative No. 6565 and you can obtain it from them without a problem.

The uniface Fugio design is on ANS negative No. 4815 and I do not have an extra print of it.

Now, as to the Immune in silver known as the Dr. Edwards copy, my files show a thorough description in the Cogan Sale of September 24, 1874. A copy of the description is enclosed.

Attinelli, page 42, makes a comment with respect to Dr. Edwards. Von Bergen's Coin Encyclopedia, plate 34, No. 162, illustrates the Edwards copy. The copper restrikes are described in the Woodward Sale of April 28, 1863, the Woodward Sale of October 18, 1864 (Lots 2701 and 2702), the Parmelee Sale, the Whitman Sale and the Chilton Sale. I have pictures of these pieces if you need them.

I would like very much for you to furnish me with the text of the description of these pieces in the April 28, 1863 Woodward Sale as I do not have it in my file.

The Massachusetts Historical Society has a silver Edwards piece and whether it is a substitution for the genuine one which Appleton bought at the Mickley Sale (No. 2364), or in the Woodward Sale of March 20, 1865, I do not know. There is much more to

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

Page 2
Mr. Don Taxay

October 11, 1967

this Immune subject then meets the eye. With respect to the gold Immune owned by John Ford, I saw this coin ten years ago, have its picture, and it has never been reported, numismatically.

I do not think that there is any question about the fact that Mark Leavenworth prepared the Nova Eborac pieces when he took planchets from the Connecticut Mint. It would be normal to date the coins, in advance, in view of the meeting of the New York Legislature early in 1787.

Best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/etb

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK
National Association
MONEY MUSEUM



Rockefeller Center

1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020

October 14, 1967

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

This is just a note to acknowledge your kind letter of the 11th, and to enclose what I hope is the Immune Columbia citation you requested. I dug up the ANS negatives for the Fugio hub trial and the imitation Nova copper. What in the world is the picture next to the Fugio piece? MHS is always very difficult to deal with, so I would appreciate it if you could provide me with the print of the Edwards copy. Also, I should like a print of Ford's gold specimen.

The Broome letter is tantalizing is its vagueness.

By the way, you did not send me a list of your Fugio patterns. I have just returned from Baltimore and JHU where I had the pleasure of examining the Colonial coins in the Garrett collection. You will no doubt be intrigued by the fact that the enigmatic legend on the Gloucester shilling reads "RIG ... DAWSON." At least, this is what the coin said to me when I peered at it through a 10 X glass. All of which is calculated to obfuscate the issue beyond recall.

I have to go to Indiana tomorrow evening and will be there a good part of the week. So I will not get to the Supreme Court records until after that time.

With kindest regards, I remain

Yours sincerely,


Don Taxay

DT/kl

No
P.S. Do you know of any definite citation on the Pitt tokens?

Cr. Pl. VII No 1 p 300 in silver 146 p.

101-AA in pewter see ASN 1902 p 76 173 1/2

In silver

Obv from ANS die - rev New Haven die 161 g

Fin white metal ~~obverse~~ die impressions made by Gosh
of each side See ASN 1902 identical pieces

Electros^{of each face} in copper of obverse 2 links + 1 circular.
See 1902 ASN.

October 17, 1967

Mr. Don Tazay

Eric T. Newman

Dear Don:

I am glad I was able to be helpful and appreciate the *Immune* Columbia citation which you located for me.

The mysterious piece on the same negative as the Fugio half trial is a George Washington bottom die stamped on both sides of a piece of metal.

I am enclosing herewith a picture of the Edwards specimen, in silver, which Ford owns. It is better than the *MM* picture. As to any photographs or data on the Ford gold specimen and another silver specimen just like it, I feel that I am not in a position to send any of this to you for the reason that it might come up in the pending arbitration.

With respect to the Blodcenter shilling, you will have to find some name beginning with "Bl" as it might be a partnership between Mr. Bidden and Mr. Newman, or something of that nature.

What are you doing in Indiana, you old hoosier? Are you looking at some of the Lilly material?

The only citation I know of on the Pitt tokens is Fleck's statement, which is an error, and I presume Bannell's book would have something.

You asked me about the Fugio patterns.

I have 103-EE, in silver, weighing 186 grains.

I have 101-AA, in pewter, weighing 173 1/2 grains, mentioned in *AJN*, 1902, page 76.

I have a very interesting silver piece with the obverse from the 183 die and the reverse the Ray Mazon Die FF, weighing 161 grains.

I have two white metal die impressions, made by Crosby, one obverse, 101, and one reverse, unlabeled, which are identical to those mentioned in the 1902 *AJN* article.

I have sketches of two of the lines side (with rays extending into the lines) and one of the sun dial side (101), also mentioned in *AJN*.

Somewhere in my notes I have a list of all the brass, copper, and silver restrikes which I have seen but that would take a week to find.

You still have not told me who is taking your work and I wish to be let in on the information.

So, what's new?

Sincerely,

MEMO

FROM



Richard Picker

11/17/67

P. O. BOX 123

ALBERTSON, N. Y. 11507

AREA CODE 516 • 621-0763

Dear Eric:

Am hoping that I'll be seeing you at the ANS meeting tomorrow, but, in the event that you're not able to make it, I just wanted to remind you to please do what work is necessary on that Sommer Islands Shilling copy. It's borrowed, and I've had it for quite a long time, and it should be returned. By the way, I spoke to JJF earlier. He told me that Anton has the Hawley specimens of the Immune Columbias. Those are the ones that I sold Hawley a good number of years ago. I originally got them from Ed Rice. They were lovely. If you find it convenient to be in N.Y. around Dec. 8th, don't forget that we have our N.Y. Club Christmas meeting that evening. It should be fun.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Picker', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MEMO

FROM



Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 123

ALBERTSON, N. Y. 11507

AREA CODE 516 • 621-0763

11/22/67

Dear Eric:

Just got off the phone with Don Taxay. It seems that he has all of JJFs Immunes for study and write up!!! Just called him back to be sure of what ~~he~~ he told me, and it seems that I was somewhat mistaken. Taxay has the silver Immune over the English shilling, and the regular copper. He had been given the opportunity to examine the gold over the Guinea and the Edwards in Silver, and has photos of both of these. I asked for permission to examine these pieees as well as the photos, and he told me that it would require the permission of JJF. He said that he'd call and ask for such permission, and would let me know. I'll keep you posted as to developments, and, if I can get to see any of this stuff, my opinions as to just what I think they are. Hope you had a nice pleasant drive back. Personally, I would have rather have taken a plane, and had ~~the~~ the car driven out by one of those deals. But, there's no holding back the adventurous spirit of you young fellows!!!

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Richard Picker", written in a cursive style.

November 24, 1967

Mr. Richard Picker
P. O. Box 123
Albertson, New York 11507

Dear Dick:

I received your letter of November 17, 1967, after I came back from New York. I was glad we had the opportunity to chat for a short time, and you were very nice to drive me to the train.

I will take pictures of the Sommer Islands pieces at the earliest opportunity, but I am just snowed in work. I would appreciate it if you would write me a letter with respect to the defect near the scales on the copper Immune Columbia piece which Hawley sold to Anton recently. I would like to have your opinion in writing for future reference. Don Taxay saw the piece recently and I am asking the same from him.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:mb

November 24, 1967

Mr. Don Taxay
c/o Chase Manhattan Bank
Money Museum
1254 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York

Dear Don:

When I spoke to you in New York at A.N.S. last Saturday, you indicated that you had recently seen the copper Immune Columbia piece which Anton has and had studied the defect near the scales. You told me that you would write me a letter confirming your opinion of what this defect is. Would you be nice enough to do so?

It is great having you back in the United States, and we will rejuvenate our correspondence as in the past. I will work on the contents of the little package you gave me just as soon as I have an opportunity.

I am not yet a grandfather as my daughter is as late as I am in answering my correspondence.

Cordially,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:mb

MEMO

FROM



Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 123

ALBERTSON, N. Y. 11507

AREA CODE 516 • 621-0763

11/27/67

Dear Eric:

Thanks very much for your letter of the 24th. Glad you made it back safely. That's quite a long drive. Regarding the copper Immune Columbia that I sold to Cyril Hawley some years ago, it had a bad planchet defect. This ran from the edge towards the scales or perhaps into the scales. Actually it was a flaked planchet, and the metal was so fragile that I was afraid to handle it at that point, for fear that the flake would come off. I hope that this answers your question. Meanwhile, I wish that Edison Brothers could spare you for the more important work of numismatics. Women will buy shoes whether you tell them to or not. Believe me, I know!!!

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'R. Picker', written in a cursive style.

MEMORANDUM

December 15, 1967

To

FROM

Don Taxay called me today and told me that Ford's gold IMMUNE COLUMBIA was a false coin; that he was writing an opinion on the Ford piece and on the Anton copper piece and was mailing that opinion this weekend to Anton. He told me that Anton would be willing to give me a copy of the opinion if I asked Anton for it.

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

MEMORANDUM

December 15, 1967

To

FROM

Don Taxay called me today and told me that Ford's gold IMMUNE COLUMBIA was a false coin; that he was writing an opinion on the Ford piece and on the Anton copper piece and was mailing that opinion this weekend to Anton. He told me that Anton would be willing to give me a copy of the opinion if I asked Anton for it.

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

NUMISMATIC INFORMATION SERVICE

APPRAISALS
PEDIGREEING
AUTHENTICATION
RESEARCH AND
PREPARATION OF
ARTICLES
ILLUSTRATIONS
MUSEUM COUNSELING

32-42 33rd Street
Astoria, New York 11106
Telephone: (212) 274-1431 or 552-1047
UNDER DIRECTION OF DON TAXAY
Former Curator Chase Manhattan Bank
Money Museum

Dec. 27, 1967

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Vice President
Edison Bros. Inc.
400 Washington St.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

When you return the colonial section to me this coming week, will you please include the print of the MHS Edwards piece. Perhaps, under magnification, I can determine whether it has the same die state as the Ford specimen. I will assume that the copper MHS piece with the "die break" is an electro. If it proved to be a struck coin, I think I would believe that it had been switched, and was akin to the Ford-Franklin group.

I am glad you have resolved to become an eremite for the sake of numismatics, and will now get to work on the catalogue. Beethoven once said he preferred the company of trees to that of people. Do you think we can justifiably extend that preference to include coins (or at least to disclude coin dealers?)

Cordially,


Don

January 10, 1968

Mr. Don Taxay
Numismatic Information Service
32-42 33rd Street
Astoria, New York 11106

Dear Don:

In accordance with your request, I am enclosing my only photo of the Immune Columbia Edwards copy in the Massachusetts Historical Society collection.

Please return it after it has served your purpose.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

January 10, 1968

Mr. Don Taxay
Numismatic Information Service
32-42 33rd Street
Astoria, New York 11106

Dear Don:

I am returning herewith the Colonial section of your proposed new catalogue. I have enjoyed reading it and as you will see from my scribble all over the thing I have had a few suggestions to make. It certainly shows integrity to put the quasi Colonials into a separate section.

Virtually all of my corrections were done by memory and not by checking any of your material. In those instances where you specify whose collections items are in, you might run a danger of criticism from some. That is up to you. Of course you realize that many of the rare pieces where you say 3 are known will end up as being more than that.

I certainly hope I have been helpful and it is a pleasure to have gone over the script.

I have kept a photocopy of it so that I can make further suggestions.

You asked me for the Fugio restrikes in the Sloss collection and they are enclosed. You already have my restrikes in a letter I wrote you some time ago.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/stb

August 9, 1968

Mr. Don Taxey
Numismatic Information Service
32-42 33rd Street
Astoria, New York 11106

Dear Don:

When you telephoned the other day you indicated you would send all of your material on the Immune Columbia problem to us for us to keep. You indicated that although you had planned to write it up, you had not done so, and that we were free to do so. If this is not correct, please let us know.

Our "reminder file" indicates there is a photograph or so which we loaned you in connection with that study and we wanted to clear up that matter, also.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPV/a tb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

August 9, 1968

Mr. Don Taxay
Numismatic Information Service
32-42 33rd Street
Astoria, New York 11106

Dear Don;

When you telephoned the other day you indicated you would send all of your material on the Immune Columbia problem to us for us to keep. You indicated that although you had planned to write it up, you had not done so, and that we were free to do so. If this is not correct, please let us know.

Our "reminder file" indicates there is a photograph or so which we loaned you in connection with that study and we wanted to clear up that matter, also.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,


ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/a tb

NUMISMATIC INFORMATION SERVICE

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UNDER DIRECTION OF DON TAXAY
Former Curator Chase Manhattan Bank
Money Museum

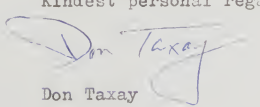
August 19, 1968

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

We have your letter of the 9th, requesting the loan of such material as we possess concerning the Immune Columbia coinage. It is our belief that, in the case of controversial subjects, the best interests of numismatics are served by a free and uninhibited study of the exhibits. Accordingly, the above mentioned material is enclosed.

Kindest personal regards,



Don Taxay

encls.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 3, 1968

Mr. Harold Spradley
54 Cranston Court
Centerville, Ohio

Dear Harold:

I have been loaned some beautiful pictures of a gold forgery of what is called an Immune Columbia piece. I would like to have excellent pictures of them made for my files. Is it possible for you to make them for me? I am enclosing photocopies of the item and will send you the positives if you can say "yes".

I'll telephone you as I have lots of interesting things to tell you.

My best to you and yours.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

September 3, 1968

Mr. Don Taxay
32-42 33rd Street
Astoria, New York 11106

Dear Don:

The miscellaneous Immune Columbia items arrived and I will be studying them.

Naturally, I hope you can locate the pictures which I sent you of the silver Edwards Immune which belonged to Ford.

I was a little disappointed that you did not have any pictures of the copper Immune that belonged to Hawley and which Anton recently had and I was wondering if any were taken or were going to be taken.

With respect to your feeling that a free and uninhibited study of material in controversy is the best for all concerned, you have always known that my feeling is along those lines. Unfortunately, there are others who do not believe in it and there is much material which has been requested in the course of our research which has not been made available.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/stb

October 11, 1968

Mr. William Anton
Woodcliff Investment Corp.
Post Office Box 135
Lodi, New Jersey 07644

Dear Bill:

I see in your advertisement on page 1523
of the Scrapbook that you are offering your 1785
copper Immune Columbia.

How about sending it to us for photography
before you sell it. You indicated you would like to
have its picture taken and we can take care of that
here very nicely.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC F. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EFN/atb

November 11, 1968

Mr. Wm. Anton
42 Main Street
Lodi, New Jersey

Dear Bill:

I saw Don Taxay, in New York, and he told me that due to illness you were unable to do anything about the Immune Columbia photographs. He indicated you wanted to do so promptly and it is our sincere suggestion that you send the coin out here or give it to Don Taxay to send it out here so that I can have some excellent photographs made. It would be returned as promptly as it can be photographed.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

February 10, 1969

Mr. Don Taxay
Harmer Rooke & Co.
604 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Don:

With your exciting new position as President of the Coin Division I note that your prestige has required you to be known as D. Paul Taxay. Can I still call you Don? I want to wish you the best of success in the new enterprise and I will be very interested to learn more about its nature and operations. COIN WORLD could not have given you a better write-up. I certainly hope you do not lose your touch for research now that you are involved more intimately with the commercial.

One of the first tasks I am going to ask you to do is to get your new associate to cooperate in connection with pictures of the Immune Columbia in copper. He has promised that we can examine the coin and photograph it. Would you therefore be nice enough to undertake to have the coin sent out here for those studies as that has been neglected too long. This is something you also wanted to accomplish.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

ETW/etb

Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc.
International Auctions

RICHARD GORDON
PRESIDENT

London 1903

New York 1939

GORDON HARMER
CONSULTANT

AUCTION
APPRAISAL
PRIVATE SALE

*604 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10020*

CABLE ADDRESS:
PHILATORS, NEW YORK
AREA CODE 212
765-3883

Feb. 19, 1968

Mr. Eric I. Newman
Edison Bros. Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Eric:

I have your letter of the 10th, and thank you for your best wishes. The letter arrived while Bill was in California, and I held it aside pending his return. What then should have been my surprise to learn that you had also gone to the convention, and were circulating around the same room as Bill. Really, Eric, why did you so conspicuously avoid Bill when you were close enough to whisper "hello" and be heard by him. How do you expect me to ask a favor of him for you when you deliberately insult him in front of D. Ficker. I would like to help you out, but what exactly do you expect me to do under the circumstances. Perhaps a sincere apology might help restore the situation, but I leave that up to you.

Sincerely,



D. Paul Taxay



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

February 21, 1969

Mr. D. Paul Taxay
Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc.
604 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10020

Dear Don:

I telephoned you and Bill immediately on receiving your letter of February 19 to straighten out the problem you raised.

I had some business work to do in Los Angeles on Friday, February 14, and had to be in San Diego on Saturday, February 15. I attended the California convention only from mid-afternoon Friday through supper time. I was talking with Dick Ficker when I saw Bill. I did not call over to him because he was examining some coins at the bourse table of Gary Young. During my visit I circulated about the room talking to many people and went to the Harmer-Rooke bourse space on several occasions to see Bill but no one was there. I wanted to talk to him, particularly, and did not see him anywhere again while I was there.

I was satisfied to learn from Bill that he was examining, elsewhere, coins offered to him by others. It was merely the short visit I had to the convention and Bill's involvement that caused what Bill misconstrued to be a discourtesy. I am glad that the matter has been cleared up.

Bill did assure me, over the telephone, that the copper Immune Columbia pieces would be made available to us for photographic purposes and the sooner the better.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/etb



Professional Numismatist

POST OFFICE BOX 135
LODI, NEW JERSEY

—:—

201 - 391-9595

SPECIALIZING IN

- U. S. Colonial Coins
- U. S. Paper Money

Woodcliff Investment Corp.

Mar 1967

Pie

I understand you called the office. What was the message? I suppose it was in reference to the 3rd party we spoke of. I hope your operation is not too serious and you recover very strongly and quickly. In reference to the Copper Immune pieces. I'm going to try to get down to St. Louis on March 15 & 16 for the St. Louis Numismatic Association. I'll have the pieces with me.

We can meet and you can photograph and
examine same. On the other hand if I don't
make St. Louis on the 15th. will have
proper plates taken of all pieces and mailed to you.
Don and myself have an excellent photograph
presently and will do justice for you.

Sincerely

Wm. C. Cady

P.S. I don't want to trust the
mails to such important pieces!



Professional Numismatist

POST OFFICE BOX 135
LODI, NEW JERSEY

—:—

201 - 391-9595

SPECIALIZING IN

- U. S. Colonial Coins
- U. S. Paper Money

Woodcliff Investment Corp.

Cie,

As politely as possible I shall write
this letter to you. I called you at PA-7-
0850 3 times on Saturday March 15, at
2 P.M., 3 P.M. & 4 P.M. at 3 P.M. and 4 P.M.
I called MA-1-7300 I also spoke to
a Mr. Tom Hough who is probably one
of your employees. He never heard of
you. I left word with him that I called
and have been calling all afternoon trying

to reach you. I have intense that I tried
calling you. Parcoe Coin Co and Hickman
and Waters were present when I tried to get
a hold of you. What in the world is going
on? Who is hiding who? It cost me
\$40 plane fare to come to St. Louis. It
also cost me \$35 ~~insurance~~ for the medical
for the coin I had on my person. I would
of expected D.P. to pull something like
this not you. I feel it best we just
leave everything status quo.

Bill

March 10, 1969

Mr. William Anton
42 Main St.
Lodi, New Jersey

Dear Bill:

I am very pleased that you are coming to St. Louis this coming weekend and look forward to your call when you arrive.

As I told you, I came out of the hospital yesterday and will stay home for a week so that the mumbletypeg they played on my middle heels sufficiently.

I am trying to line up a photographer to take pictures of the Immune Columbia pieces which you stated you would be able to bring with you and that will be much better than my trying to take pictures in my condition. I assume that the pictures you asked me for were Connecticut 1-(h)WW. If I feel strong enough I will locate them before you are here. The original piece is, naturally, in my vault at the bank and I will not be able to get to it.

Thank you, very much, for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

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Thank you, very much, for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/stb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 19, 1969

Mr. Wm. Anton
Harmer, Rooke & Co. Inc.,
604 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10020

Dear Bill:

We certainly seem to be having unnecessary communication difficulties. I was home the entire day and night of Saturday, March 15 and Sunday, March 16. I was right next to the telephone at all times as my doctor would not let me leave home.

I did get a message, at my office, on Monday morning, from Tom Hough indicating that you had called. I find that Mr. Hough is a week-end IBM operator whom I do not know and who does not know me. He left the message with our watchman.

I had also told Tom Kolbrenner, who was going to be at the convention, to keep an eye out for you as his brother, Bob, was going to do the photography. When he asked on Saturday afternoon he was told by someone from Martin Coin Company that you were there but apparently had left for New York. Kolbrenner didn't tell me this until last night.

What can we do to have all these strange events stop interfering? If I had been able to get out of the house there would have been no problem.

I guess we ought to follow the motto - if at first we don't succeed, let's try, try again.

I am certainly sorry you were so inconvenienced and I cannot understand why you did not reach me at home when you had the correct number.

Most sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

P.S. I am enclosing the picture of my Connecticut 1(h)-WW,
as requested.

EPN

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS



Professional Numismatist

POST OFFICE BOX 135
LODI, NEW JERSEY

—:—

201 - 391-9595

SPECIALIZING IN

- U. S. Colonial Coins
- U. S. Paper Money

3/22/69

Woodcliff Investment Corp.

Eric,
Received your letter. I really appreciate hearing
from you after all that has happened. I don't know
why Tom Kolbman did not have me paged
at the registration desk. I truly believe he was
saying that every man is not a Man. Our
photographic material is due in very shortly. I think
it best as soon as it does come in, we and
myself will take expert pictures for you
especially knowing the reasons for their use. Also
if you come to N.Y.C. we welcome you

to our office and I'll bring the coin in for
you to inspect. This I promise you of course.
Please be sure to contact ME by letter or
phone, at home or office. I hope your operation
is history now and you are and about

Sincerely
Wm. A. H.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 4, 1969

Mr. Don Taxay
Apt. 25-C
Skyline Towers
43-23 Golden St.
Flushing, New York 11355

Dear Don:

I have been out of town and thus did not promptly reply to your letter of November 29.

I am certainly sorry that the Harmer-Rooke association came to such a quick end. These matters must be terribly complex.

What can I do about getting the pictures of the copper
→ Immune Columbia which have been promised me over and over again. Are you able to do anything to have this accomplished? Should I write anybody? I would appreciate your thoughts.

As to the picture which you loaned me, your suggestion about making a copy negative is a good one. You realize, of course, that there are some ink notations on the back which you made.

As to the 1804 answer, I am going to try very hard to finish it this week end so as to submit it to you. There is just too much turmoil about everything today to permit me to get this type of work done. It seems that I spend three times as much time straightening out normal things. People are beginning to abuse one another, which has gone far beyond just being inconsiderate. I treasure my friendships greatly in view of the situation.

I have been wondering when your book is coming out and hope that the change you have made does not complicate its publication.

Good luck in whatever you do.

EPN/atb

Sincerely yours,



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 15, 1969

Mr. Don Taxay
Apt. 25-C
Skyline Towers
43-23 Golden St.
Flushing, New York 11355

Dear Don:

I am returning herewith, at your request, the photo of the obverse and reverse of the gold Immune which you sent me and which, apparently, belongs to John Ford. You will note that you have written in permanent ink a few very devastating statements. I have a photocopy of these statements. If I were you I would leave these statements stand even if you have to return the pictures. If you want to return photos of these pictures instead, I will send them to you for the purpose, and you can send back the two enclosed pictures.

I wrote to Bill Anton and will await his reply.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EP/atb

Don Taxay
Apt. 25-C
43-23 Golden St.
Flushing, N.Y. 11355

Dec. 16, 1969

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

I got right to work, and return the 1804 article with my further suggestions. I think it is very well done, and hope you understand my suggestions and can read my writing. Please especially note my deletion, on page 9, of the sentence "However, compared to the quantity of numismatic fakes appearing since 1952 the conditions in 1834 were nothing short of sublime." This statement would seem to have reference to the "Franklin Heard" material, and, as you know, our opinions on that particular subject are unfortunately in conflict.

Thank you for the return of the Immune Columbia prints. It has been so long since I last saw them I had quite forgotten what I wrote on the back. However, I see that it is nothing more than the opinion which I have always openly expressed on the item since I examined it in the presence of John and Ted Craig. My opinion is thus no secret, and your apprising me that you have "a photocopy of these statements," and that, if you were me you "would leave these statements stand," is all rather mysterious and, I must say, a bit menacing. I am not in the habit of going back on my opinions unless I am convinced by opposing evidence of a contrary nature which has not, in this matter, been the case. Neither am I in the habit of being intimidated— one way or the other. No doubt, your language was unfortunate and you did not convey exactly what was on your mind.

Yours sincerely,



Don Taxay



HARMER, ROOKE NUMISMATISTS, Ltd.

Negotiants in Fine Coins & Currency

604 FIFTH AVENUE

• NEW YORK, N. Y. 10020

(212) 765-3883

Cable Address: Harmercoin, N. Y.

OFFICES in LONDON and LUGANO

December 29, 1969

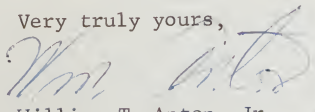
Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

I have not forgotten your requests for photographs of the Immune's. It has been very hectic here, it's been one thing after another. I have not had a chance to get to the bank to get the coins out for photographing, and if I did, there is no one here to take pictures of them. Dr. Charles Sage who is President of the Laboratory and photography of coins is presently sick and in the hospital. We hope to have him back in a few weeks. It is getting to a point that I am just as eager as you are to have the article written. I assure you it will be soon, just bear with me a little longer and I will have proper photographs taken.

As you know Don is no longer with us. He was fired Monday, November 17th in the morning by the administration. Needless to say the work has piled up even more. I'm sure you understand.

Very truly yours,



William T. Anton, Jr.
Executive Vice President

WTA/ce

AUCTIONEERS • APPRAISERS • SALES AGENTS • CREATORS OF MONEY MUSEUMS

A Subsidiary of Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc. Established LONDON 1883 • NEW YORK 1939

Don Taxay
Apt. 25-G
43-23 Colder St.
Flushing, N.Y. 11355

Jan. 5, 1970

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros. Stores Inc.
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

I have not yet received back the folder I sent you for study, and the return of which I requested during our last phone conversation. Since I shall be leaving this address not later than the 20th, your prompt attention will be appreciated.

Eric, without wishing to strain our friendship, let me say that your attitude regarding the Immune Columbia business rather worries me. For one thing, despite your last letter, I cannot believe that you were previously unaware of the fact that the prints I lent you for study (in reciprocation of your loan to me for the same purpose) belonged to John. We both know that he stamped his name, etc. on the back. Even if you have made copy prints, I'm sure you realize that the same restrictions apply as to their use. Personally, I am against all this hush-hush business, but as I own neither the coins nor the prints which are involved, I am in no position to grant you publication rights; and should you publish the prints without John's permission, it would be contrary to my will, and I would consider it a breach of trust. Also, because of the delicate nature of the situation, I cannot permit my name nor my opinion with regard to the Immune pieces to be published, nor used in any manner without my permission. This, please note, is not a disavowal, but an exercise in prudence at a time when it is badly needed.

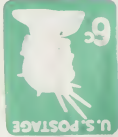
Now that that's all over, please accept my New Year's greetings, and have a wonderful time in Indonesia.

Sincerely,


Don Taxay

D. Taxay
Apt. 25-C
43-23 Golden St.
Flushing, N.Y. 11355

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros. Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 14, 1970

Mr. Don Taxay
Apt. 25-C
Skyline Towers
43-23 Colder St.
Flushing, New York 11355

Dear Don:

I have been out of town steadily and was delayed in answering your Registered letter of January 5, 1970.

I located the eight prints which constituted your loan to us and have copied them and return them herewith. The small envelope in which they were sent is a communication of yours, presumably to me, and it is still on hand. I have taken copies of the text on the back of each picture, etc.

In a side note to me you stated that you "misplaced the JFF Edwards in silver pix" which I sent you, but don't worry about it as I have an additional photo of that one.

You asked that the pictures which you borrowed from John not be used without his permission because you received them under restrictions. You also asked that your name or your opinion with respect to the Immune pieces also not be used without your approval. This, naturally, will be respected even though both of us oppose this "hush hush business" and even though this was not your original plan. You are entitled to peace of mind and you have it on this matter as far as I am concerned.

Wherever you go and however long you stay, I hope, sincerely, that you will find satisfaction in this decade and more. I hope that your continued contributions to human culture, even though they are not in numismatics, continue.

If ever I can do anything for you or if you want to communicate with me for any purpose, I will look forward

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

-2-

Mr. Don Taxay

January 14, 1970

to it. My life and interests have changed over the years and so will yours. At least the last item we worked on together will be published as a cooperative venture, proving that we do think alike on most things numismatic. The curtain for this act will go down showing we have a sense of humor.

Bon Voyage.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
atb



HARMER, ROOKE NUMISMATISTS, Ltd.

604 FIFTH AVENUE
(212) 765-3883

• NEW YORK, N. Y. 10020
Cable Address: Harmercoin, N. Y.

Negotiants of THE CARDINAL SPELLMAN COIN COLLECTION

October 28, 1970

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

It might be a year late, but better late than never. I truly did not have five minutes of extra free time to do this photography. It sounds silly I'm sure, but true. I leave the house every morning by 7 a.m., get back home at 8:30 p.m. and go to bed at 1:30 a.m. I haven't even cut the grass on my lawn where I live for six weeks. Be that as it may, I want to fulfill a promise I made to you.

I don't want any money or any favors for myself, for the enclosed information, although my costs, including that trip to St. Louis, when we missed one another and etc., is over one hundred dollars. All I expect, and I'm sure I will collect, is a fine article you will write on this coin. You will do yourself, myself and students of the Colonial field justice. You have the right to use these photos in anyway you wish. Use my name and also quote me in that John Ford showed me his gold Immune at the George Walton Sale by Stacks in 1963. He offered me the coin for a firm \$20,000. Upon preliminary inspection at that time, the coin looked cast and suspicious to me. Ford told me the coin had been polished.

In 1969 Ford, myself, Craig and Taxay met at Ford's house to discuss this Immune matter. Taxay was convinced that the Gold Immune was a fake and that somehow Ford's gold piece was made from impressions taken from my coin.

I have had several discussions with Taxay on this subject and to encourage him on writing such an article and exposing John Ford for what he really is, but Taxay for some reason whether uncertain, insecure or a fear type of respect for Ford, never finished or ever started such a project.

When I confronted Ford in front of witnesses that he offered his Gold Immune to me as genuine and for \$20,000, he said he was only joking. The next question raised by a witness was, "I wonder how much of a joke it would of been if Anton gave you a check for \$20,000. for the coin".



October 28, 1970
Mr. Eric P. Newman
Page TWO

Eric, I believe John Ford to be a very insecure person, in that he has a type of sickness whereby to overcome his complex, he must talk loud, insult people, must possess every coin type that he collects and buffalo's his way through life. He thinks college graduates are stupid because he never attended college himself. What in the world is he afraid of with pistols, rifles, hand-granades, machine guns and a concrete bomb shelter? With all this protection, and his fantastic wealth, he is afraid of himself, insecure within himself. The things he pulled with Mrs. W. Raymond and has done and is presently doing to Mrs. Boyd would rock the numismatic world. I'm sure you know what I'm talking about. The youth of America has a legitimate beef. A man robs a gas station for \$145.00, gets five years in jail. A white collar person robs, switches, misappropriates coins and funds from widows, amounting to thousands of dollars goes free. Perhaps the Lord up above will settle accounts someday.

Please return all pictures, when you have finished this article and please keep me up to date on your progress. Return pictures to my Lodi, New Jersey address. I'm sure you have your own ideas on the matter, but I think it a simple thing to take a Gold Guinea and have an impression made in some sort of hard substance. Over the same impression take my coin and compress. Now fill this area with a hard metal then case-harden. What we might have now is a die that can strike for a limited amount (2) in a soft metal (gold), a gold Immune Columbia struck over a gold Guinea. Buff down the high spots and you have a coin. Just a thought.

Look forward to hearing from you upon receipt of the enclosed. I took all the enclosed myself. Not bad, after looking at the photos in all our last sales done by professionals and costing thousands of dollars. Enclosed find six large photos and thirty-one smaller photos.

Very truly yours,

William T. Anton, Jr.
Executive Vice President

P.S. The photos clipped together are very important, in that no other silver or copper Immune inspected by me have that circular dig?, rust mark?, corrosion?, spot?, whatever under the 0 at 7 o'clock. I have personally examined seven different Silver Immunes, including yours and twelve coppers. None have this identification, except Ford's gold piece.

WTA/ce
Enclosures



HARMER, ROOKE NUMISMATISTS, Ltd.

604 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK, N. Y. 10020
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Mr. Eric P. Newman
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WTA/ce
Enclosures

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

November 2, 1970

Mr. William Anton
Harmer, Rooke Numismatists, Ltd.
604 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10020

Dear Bill:

My patience is more than rewarded by your October 28, 1970 letter and its enclosed photographs. The pictures are not only superb but show the detail of the planchet split and other defects better than looking at the coin itself. Isn't it irony that on such a choice coin we are studying its defects more than its lovely characteristics.

There is a great deal of study to be done now that these are on hand.

It would be well for you to reread a sentence in the August, 1970 Numismatist, p. 1109, col. 2, line 14, et seq. and note what may be a reference to the gold Immune Columbia which you mention in your letter. When you read my short answer to Risk (to be published in the December, 1970 Numismatist, I believe), you will see that a rather forceful comment is made about that matter.

There seems to be no mention of Ford's gold Immune in the Taxay catalogue about to be published so this could be construed to be Taxay's opinion by silence and omission, since he was thoroughly familiar with the piece.

Your experiences relating to the gold Immune are very fascinating and your observations indicate that you have studied the problems quite thoroughly.

Thank you, so much, for this fine assist to our research. Now you can cut your grass, since winter is here.

Sincerely yours,

EPN
atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

November 2, 1970

Mr. William Anton
Harner, Rooke Numismatists, Ltd.
604 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10020

Dear Bill:

My patience is more than rewarded by your October 28, 1970 letter and its enclosed photographs. The pictures are not only superb but show the detail of the planchet split and other defects better than looking at the coin itself. Isn't it irony that on such a choice coin we are studying its defects more than its lovely characteristics.

There is a great deal of study to be done now that these are on hand.

It would be well for you to reread a sentence in the August, 1970 Numismatist, p. 1109, col. 2, line 14, et seq. and note what may be a reference to the gold Immune Columbia which you mention in your letter. When you read my short answer to Risk (to be published in the December, 1970 Numismatist, I believe), you will see that a rather forceful comment is made about that matter.

There seems to be no mention of Ford's gold Immune in the Taxay catalogue about to be published so this could be construed to be Taxay's opinion by silence and omission, since he was thoroughly familiar with the piece.

Your experiences relating to the gold Immune are very fascinating and your observations indicate that you have studied the problems quite thoroughly.

Thank you, so much, for this fine assist to our research. Now you can cut your grass, since winter is here.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
atb

WOODCLIFF INVESTMENT CORP.

P. O. Box 135 — Lodi, New Jersey 07644

Cric,

Hope you are well.

Have been very busy.

It seems you will not be
doing the Immune article
after all. It's been over a year
since I mailed you photos. I
have just about completed my
study on this subject and am
ready to go to printing so
therefore kindly mail back

to me all of My Immune
Photos. I want to get my
article in for the Jan 1972
Mammunist.

So bad about Piche's loss

W. Lator //

Woodcliff Investment Corp.

P. O. BOX 135

LODI, NEW JERSEY 07644



Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo.
63178

30 SEPT
1971

WOODCLIFF INVESTMENT CORP.

P. O. Box 135 — Lodi, New Jersey 07644

Dear Vic,

Thanks for sending letter of 10/4.

I can't see what the A. N. A.
Committee has to do with
publishing the Immune article.
Either you are going to do it
or I am and if I am there is
no sense you photographing
the Polaroid shots. If you
don't want to do the article
because of your position I understand.

If I do the article I want
to do it with my own merits
and information which will be
my own opinion. I truly want
and feel you should do the
article. If yours not on the other
hand I don't want it to die
like it did with Tapp. on
your reply to this note let us
terminate who will do the article.

Sincerely
Bill

Woodcliff Investment Corp.

P. O. BOX 135

LODI, NEW JERSEY 07644



Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.

P.O. Box 14020

St. Louis, Mo.

63178

WOODCLIFF INVESTMENT CORP.

P. O. Box 135 — Lodi, New Jersey 07644

11/71

Eric,

The photos just came in today along with your reminder notes. Photos not the best. Add them to your files.

With reference to the Immune matter. Can I locate the photo of John's gold piece. Can you kindly mail me a copy or your copy and I'll have made up prints from them and return your photo. ~~What~~ Would like

your opinion. I believe that
an electro was made of the
obverse of my copper piece and
a die produced from this electro.
Do you agree?

Sincerely
R. L. H.

Reed
Nov 1971

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 8, 1971

Mr. William Anton, Jr.
P. O. Box 135
Lodi, New Jersey 07644

Dear Bill:

In accordance with the request in your undated letter sent to me in November, 1971, I am enclosing prints of the obverse and reverse of the gold Immune Columbia in the collection of John Ford. Please return these two prints to me after they have served your purpose. It may be that you never had a picture of this coin.

I hope this will be of assistance to you in your write-up and look forward to reading your commentary.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

Enc.

Woodcliff Investment Corp.

P. O. BOX 135

LODI, NEW JERSEY 07644



Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri
63178

327-1141

Woodcliff Investment Corp.

P. O. BOX 135 - LODI, NEW JERSEY 07644

Eric,

7/6/76

Hope this short note finds you and your family in the very best of health.

The Immune sale is withdrawn from the Stark's sale. Last week I took in my photographs which you saw and reviewed Norman and Harvey along with your latest publication just to what degree the coins (the Immunes) were made. Stark is still looking over my photographs. The reason why I am writing is that I had thought

a 3rd party that Ford is going to sue you.
It might be all but air or a somewhat of a
protective device to save face but I thought
I'd relate the message to you. If need be
I'll be happy to tell who Ford told and
who the 3rd party is. See you at the convention.

Sincerely,
Bill

Donald Partuck
South Hempstead, Long Island
Island

Tony Barron

Answered by tel. phone
SPN

³⁰
SPM Tues Aug 24, 1976.

Re IMMUNE
COLUMBIA
electrotype dies.

Harvey Stoch showed me
a letter dated 8/10/76 from
Newman, the director of the Intl Soc against
Counterfeiting & Forgery. It was on the stationery
of the organization. It was addressed to John
Ford in answer to an inquiry of John Ford.
Newman said that electrotype dies were possible
and that he was not sure how they were made
but mentioned the false cupro nickel florins
made in Scotland and also mentioned another
ctf or so. He concluded that it was possible.
Harvey was going to consider sending me a copy.
Harvey rec'd the letter (a copy) from Newman
with an accompanying note that because it was
in his auction he was ~~necessary~~ being sent a copy
of the letter to Ford.

I thanked Harvey for showing the letter to
me and he seemed to take it as justification
for withdrawing lot 110 from the 8/24/76 auction.
I told Harvey that I had discussed ctf's
with Newman at the Tower Mint in London some
years ago.

Simon Newman



MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

OLD RIDGEBURY ROAD
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

August 9, 1977

ANACS
818 North Cascade
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Gentlemen:

I was told that you would be sent a 1785 Immune Columbia - Nova Constellatio copper piece from Philadelphia. Please take a nice picture of it for me before you send it to me. If it doesn't come I'll follow up. It is a new find.

Thanks,

Eric P. Newman

jah

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 16, 1977

Mr. John Hunter
ANACS
818 North Cascade
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Dear John:

As you remembered, the 1785 Immune Columbia is the coin I need a photo of. It will not be easy but I want to publish it in the Numismatist in my article. Do the best you can with it. It is a major find.

I will be most appreciative if I can receive prints of each side.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

The weight is about one-third too low. The specific gravity is far too low for silver. The edge is smoothed all around and shows lines running around the edge while originals have milled edges. There are circular gas holes in the field to the right of the right top of A of ANNAPOLIS, near the border beading above the serif on the left foot of the same A, between R and S, and under the right foot of A in CHALMERS. The envelope is marked Cannon & Sons, Inc., 1127 W. University Ave., Gainesville, Fla. 32601, 904-372-7553. This forgery is almost identical to B-3776 submitted late in 1975 and which was declared a forgery for most of the same reasons.

E-6762-B 1785 Immune Columbia - Nova Constellatio. B & R Galleries 8/21/78 Sale #25 illustrated.

Wt. 9.18 grams (141.7 grains) sp. gr. 8.79.

This coin was weakly struck, the I in IMMUNE and the lower part of the date in particular. The weight and specific gravity are normal. There are many pitted and rough areas which is usual in the planchets of genuine pieces. Pitted and rough areas include the following:

Obverse: In and under UNE, between the cap and C, over the head, within and under O, in front of chin and neck, over the top of the horizontal arm of the female figure all the way to U which has a triangular depression within it, two on the flag, one on the bosom, one on the safe, and one between the two ornaments left of the date.

Reverse: Left of the top and under the final O, a gash above the left side of the first L and within the first O of CONSTELLATION, and a border dent touching the left upper serif of the first L.

There is red corrosion above and below the horizontal arm of the female figure extending into the U. There is green corrosion in the crotches of the star below EL. The corrosive areas appear old.

From recent handling the raw copper shows thru at the juncture of the faces with the edge and on the edge next to AT. This is unfortunate and distracting.

The surface is generally dark, the corrosion seems natural. I have compared the coin to a choice genuine example. The pedigree of the submitted piece has not been determined. A find of another coin with a similar surface appearance was dug up in Philadelphia about three years ago. I find nothing sufficiently suspicious about the submitted piece to challenge it. I feel it is genuine. Richard Picker should review it.

All of the coins are returned herewith.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

July 12, 1983

REGISTERED MAIL

Mr. Tom DeLorey
ANACS
818 North Cascade
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Dear Tom:

F-0577-B - Immune Columbia in silver. Wt. 5.90 grams, 10.32 sp. gr.. Diagonally reeded edge. This coin is very thin. It has two parallel scratches in the field outside of the two rays between A of NOVA and C of CONSTELLATIO. It shows substantial obverse flatness on the figure. Crosby VII-31. Nice toning. I have examined a counterfeit of this variety and find the counterfeit substantially different from this.

The edge reeding is only slightly diagonal and was applied before striking by a Castaing machine. It is like others.

These pieces were struck in America with dies made in England. Since copper Immune pieces from the same obverse die are struck over other coins the silver pieces are apparently struck over other coins which were smoothed or rolled first. There is one Silver Immune with a plain edge. Some have different thicknesses and weights. The low weight of the piece in question is understandable.

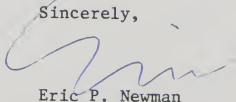
I do not see any difference in the edge between Lot #1333 in the Garrett Collection sale as you state.

The piece is genuine in our opinion.

I have a very large research file on the Immune pieces and would like an enlarged picture of this piece for that file.

The coin is returned herewith.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

jah
Encl.

AUCTIONS BY BOWERS AND MERENA, INC.



February 26, 1990

J. Bruce Jackson, M.D.
Numismatic Portfolios
2004 Lexington Avenue
Mansfield, OH 44907

BOX 1224
WOLFEBORO, NH 03894
(603) 569-5095
Fax (603) 569-5319

Dear Dr. Jackson:

Dave Bowers passed your letter of February 14 along to me, together with your census data on the Immune Columbia patterns, proposals, or whatever they really were. It is clear to me that you have been carefully tracking this somewhat enigmatic series over many years, and I congratulate you on the thoroughness of your population data for each variety.

Here are some thoughts of my own on each variety in the series. Your "copper with Extra Star": I had independently expanded my census list, which I published in Norweb: 2621, to include all the specimens on your own list save the Kagin's September 1978 piece, which is new to me. Your "copper with no Extra Star": like you, I know of only two examples with certainty; however, I would not be surprised to learn that there was a handful more. Your "copper with Star and Blunt Rays": we agree, I know of only the two that you list. Your "silver without Star": my list agrees with yours; there may be two pieces in the Boyd Estate, edge type unknown; the Ted Craig Estate piece does have a plain edge. Your "Vermont": I have nothing to add to your list. Your "Georgius III": the Bareford piece's authenticity is controversial; the Bowers and Merena inventory piece has been sold; the Bowers and Merena reference collection piece has also been sold; I know of two others in addition to yours: Yale University Collection (there in December 1989) and another ex NN 59th: 1066, 96.6 grains, "cut down". I might mention that the Doyle - Lauder example of your "silver without Star" was withdrawn prior to sale, as its authenticity was questioned. I am unaware of its present whereabouts; it may have been genuine!

I have never personally catalogued one of your "copper without Extra Star" variety, so I have no "hands on" experience with this. The population census information I published in Norweb Part II was the best I could do under the pressure of cataloguing at the time. I was very careful in each catalogue description to indicate the absolute rarity (on the Sheldon scale) as popularly believed, qualified by a census of the specimens I had personally seen or had reported to me. I never "guess" when it comes to rarity ratings!

Personally, I am studying the Immune Columbia series, as part of a larger project dealing with the so-called James Atlee punch linked dies. These include a large family of New Jersey, Vermont, New York, and Connecticut pieces, altogether nearly 50 different varieties all of which bear a very distinctive, identical letter punch in their legends. In the course of this work I have revised the emission sequences traditionally proposed for the various members of the family, particularly in the Vermont series. Preliminary results

When great collections are sold Bowers and Merena sells them

suggest that no single die sinker was responsible for all the varieties ordinarily attributed to Atlee, unless we suppose that he could have been in two places at the same time!

I wish you luck with your publication of your population census data. Incidentally, I do not notice your name on the latest roster of patrons of the Colonial Newsletter Foundation. In case you are unfamiliar with this publication, which, in my opinion, would be the ideal place to publish your findings since they would be read by all those interested in early American coinages, it is edited by James C. Spilman, whose address is P.O. Box 4411, Huntsville Alabama 35802.

I hope this information helps.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike H", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. Hodder
Director, Research Department
Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc.

MJH/cll



818 North Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279
719/632-2646
FAX: 719/634-4085

May 9, 1990

J. Bruce Jackson
2004 Lexington Avenue
Mansfield, OH 44907

Dear Dr. Jackson:

We have reviewed your manuscript, "The Immune Columbia Patterns and Mulings," and are pleased to accept it for publication in The Numismatist, provided you approve of the suggested revisions. Our reviewer felt that the best part of the article was the census information. However, he thought that the text would require editing and some rewriting, which we can accomplish in this office. He also offered a number of comments and corrections, a copy of which is enclosed for your information. If you are willing to incorporate these changes, your article will be a welcome addition to The Numismatist.

Lots of changes!!!

Although we have not determined a definite date of publication, tentatively your article is scheduled to appear in September 1991. Once the article has been prepared by our staff, you will receive a copy prior to publication for your comments and approval.

In the meantime, please complete the enclosed author payment agreement and return it to me at your earliest convenience. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Barbara Gregory
Barbara Gregory
Editor
THE NUMISMATIST

enclosure: author payment agreement, reviewer comments



818 North Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279
719/632-2646
FAX 719/634-4085

November 25, 1991

J. Bruce Jackson
2004 Lexington Ave.
Mansfield, OH 44907

Dear Dr. Jackson:

Enclosed is a copy of your article, "Immune Columbia Patterns and Mules," as prepared by the editorial staff for publication in the January 1992 issue of The Numismatist. As you read through the copy, please ignore extra punctuation marks, such as double quotation marks, brackets and braces; these are codes for our typesetting system.

We have edited the article quite a bit, but I think you'll find it is easier for someone who is not familiar with the topic to follow. When you read over the tables, you'll notice we have added quite a bit of information to assist anyone interested in further research of the topic. We took the information from auction catalogs in the ANA Library. In most cases it was clear from your original tables which auction the pieces appeared in. However, some citations were not clear, and these are noted. One specimen was added to Table 6; it appeared in the November 1991 Bowers & Merena Frontenac Sale.

If you have any corrections or changes to the copy, please let us know no later than Wednesday, November 27. If the changes are minor, you may give them to us by telephone. You may also use our FAX number, 719/634-4085.

As soon as we receive our shipment of January magazines, we will send you several extra copies and some tear sheets for your files. If there is anything else I can do for you, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Reback
Associate Editor
THE NUMISMATIST



Kenneth Bressett
P.O. Box 60145
Colorado Springs, CO 80960-0145
719/579-8217
FAX: 719/579-8012

January 30, 1992

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

Thanks for your latest letters. I appreciate your interest in having me donate my negatives to the American Numismatic Society, and will pursue the matter as you have suggested. I will see Tony Terranova at the Dallas ANA show and ask him to evaluate the material for me.

As to the Immune Columbia article in *The Numismatist*, I too wondered who reviewed the piece before publication. I asked Barb Gregory about it, and she told me that Michael Hodder had seen the article both before and after being edited by the ANA staff. According to her they made a lot of changes to the original text, and Hodder approved of the finished piece.

I was a bit concerned about the pedigree listings, as I felt that some of the listings were redundant. Even so, they were probably the best thing about the article, and made it quite worthwhile. Barb said that they got a lot of favorable mail about the piece. Readers apparently want something more than the usual trite stories about investment grade coins.

I'm off to Wisconsin next week to work on the Red Book. Then it will be almost time for the ANA convention in Dallas. Not much interest in the show this year. Business is just too slow for most dealers, and many will not go there. They tell me that "collector" coins are still in demand. I am not sure what that means. I guess that if they have not been slabbed, they are still fit for collectors.

Sincerely,

P.S.: Thanks for the coins from Jamica.

When you in your last Email say 1843 is too early for shenanigans I call your attention to the 1804 and associated dollars and eagles as a little earlier and top notch shenanigans in America.

It is great fun trying to figure out matters with minimal facts. Eric

In a message dated 3/7/2009 1:08:56 P.M. Central Daylight Time, qdbarchive@metrocast.net writes:

Thanks, Eric!

I guess the mystery is that 1843 is very early for AMERICAN numismatic shenanigans--and not sure that the dies were over in England. But, if one is overstruck on a guinea, that could be a possibility, although guineas circulated here. Wonder if the fabric can be traced to any British maker--like the Soho Manufactory, which usually turned out technically excellent strikings? Numismatic fantasies as well, such as Copper Company of Upper Canada mulings.

-
Interesting to contemplate.

-
DAVE B

From: EricNumis@aol.com [mailto:EricNumis@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, March 06, 2009 1:32 PM

To: QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET

Subject: Immune Columbia

Dear Dave:

I am delighted that the matter of IMMUNE COLUMBIA in silver and gold came up due to your half cent and large cent draft and our discussion about it. Your comment that there was no justifiable reason for the silver pieces to be made was a new very important observation to me. That impressed me very much because long ago I had hoped that subject might be written up as I knew that certain of those silver pieces had been struck over coins minted long after the 1785-1787 period of privately made Federal patterns. I do not know the date, if ascertainable, of the spade guinea on which the gold Immune was struck. I wrote somewhat on the copper pieces in the 1976 ANS publication but nothing more. Your comment gives essential logic to the matter. We postulated in our conversion that we jointly could advance this subject together by you doing the further writing, my furnishing my research notes to you, both agreeing on the text, putting it into The Numismatist under joint authorship. I will send you my old file or copies of it as soon as I locate it.

Thanks for listening Eric

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Subj: **Re: Immune Columbia**
 Date: 3/9/2009 1:23:26 P.M. Central Daylight Time
 From: EricNumis
 To: qdbarchive@metrocast.net
 CC: KBressett@pcisys.net

Dear Dave: If you think it worthwhile I could ask either Bob Julian and/or Scott Rubin to see what they know from their records about the first mention of the 1792 Washington Roman Head Cent in a sales catalog or otherwise. Another choice is to look in Breen's detailed pencil notations (on little cards) of specifically described American coins in all early auction catalogs at the ANS unless you or someone has a copy of that prepared by Leslie Elam from Breen's notations (ANS has an Elam copy). I do not have such a copy. The coin is beautifully engraved and probably by the same engraver of the copper, silver and gold 1792 Washington patterns who is known. I have often wondered if the Roman head was meant to be complimentary (unrelated to being sarcastic or monarchial) as was the practice of fancy hairdos on some earlier Connecticut, Vermont and English coppers even though the number of stars on the Roman Head Washington reverse was strange but perhaps more artistic.

Thanks for working on this matter. Eric

In a message dated 3/8/2009 6:10:03 P.M. Central Daylight Time, qdbarchive@metrocast.net writes:

Thanks, Eric.

I'll also copy Dennis Tucker and Ken Bressett on this, as we/they might want to revisit the Roman Head cent in the GB of US coins and in the colonial book.

-

I do have Conder and also the Virtuoso's Companion and some other stuff on those tokens--contemporary--and always felt that if I lived in England I would have collected Thomas Spence stuff. I do have a U.S. large cent counterstamped with a notice of his newspaper.

-

Just the other day I was reading an auc cat of the 1850s or 1860s in which the 1792 Naked Bust (Roman Head) was called the most valuable U.S. coin. I have always thought it to be a Soho-like production and haven't doubted its, say, 1790s origin. However, it is always best to try zero-based thinking (I try to do this, with some success now and again). If you have an "earliest" citation for the Roman Head it would be interesting to know of it.

-

DAVE

From: EricNumis@aol.com [mailto:EricNumis@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2009 5:29 PM
To: qdbarchive@metrocast.net
Subject: Re: Immune Columbia

Dear Dave:

Continuing the IMMUNE COLUMBIA matter I located the basis for the two gold pieces. The second one was written up by me on page 207 of Studies on Money in Early America (ANS 1976) and was diagnosed as a probable forgery made from a casting from a genuine copper piece which had a planchet split. The reverse was different from the Stickney gold coin reverse. If the Stickney gold IMMUNE was done in England there would be no reason to use a struck guinea as the under coin. . You may wish to change your language a little.

On the Roman Head 1792 Washington being included in the Conder token group I checked all of my group of books on such Conder tokens and there are no images, descriptions or listing of the 1792 pieces. The indices list the Washington North Wales items only. I suggest that if you wish to mention them you state they were struck in England as Breen's theories as to their being of comic or sarcastic design is apparently hype. They could have been an earlier design than the 1792 English struck Washington pieces.

When you in your last Email say 1843 is too early for shenanigans I call your attention to the 1804 and associated dollars and eagles as a little earlier and top notch shenanigans in America.

It is great fun trying to figure out matters with minimal facts. Eric

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-

Interesting to contemplate.

-

DAVE B

From: EricNumis@aol.com [mailto:EricNumis@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, March 06, 2009 1:32 PM

To: QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET

Subject: Immune Columbia

Dear Dave:

I am delighted that the matter of IMMUNE COLUMBIA in silver and gold came up due to your half cent and large cent draft and our discussion about it. Your comment that there was no justifiable reason for the silver pieces to be made was a new very important observation to me. That impressed me very much because long ago I had hoped that subject might be written up as I knew that certain of those silver pieces had been struck over coins minted long after the 1785-1787 period of privately made Federal patterns. I do not know the date, if ascertainable, of the spade guinea on which the gold Immune was struck. I wrote somewhat on the copper pieces in the 1976 ANS publication but nothing more. Your comment gives essential logic to the matter.

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Thanks for listening Eric

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Need a job? [Find employment help in your area.](#)

Need a job? [Find employment help in your area.](#)

Subj: RE: Immune Columbia
 Date: 3/10/2009 7:35:13 P.M. Central Daylight Time
 From: kbressett@pcisys.net
 To: qdbarchive@metrocast.net, EricNumis@aol.com
 CC: dennis.tucker@whitmanbooks.com

To all:

Glad to see that you are working on solving some of the mysteries of the Immune Columbia pieces. I have been conferring with Eric about them and the statement made in the upcoming book on copper cents and half-cents. I am concerned with the quote about Stickney acquiring the dies for the 1785 coins. I cannot imagine how I missed seeing this seeing this when we originally worked on the 1804 dollar book. I read every issue of the AJN from cover to cover back then. In an effort to verify the quote from the July 1881 issue I reread that issue again today. Nowhere in there could I find any reference to Stickney or the Immune Columbia pieces. Please direct me to where this information was published. If such exists, I do not believe that it implies that Stickney ever had the dies. It may mean to say that he obtained a specimen in gold, but not the dies.

Kenneth Bressett
 P.O. Box 60145
 Colorado Springs, CO 80960

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave Bowers [mailto:qdbarchive@metrocast.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2009 5:10 PM
To: EricNumis@aol.com
Cc: dennis.tucker@whitmanbooks.com; kbressett@pcisys.net
Subject: RE: Immune Columbia

Thanks, Eric.

I'll also copy Dennis Tucker and Ken Bressett on this, as we/they might want to revisit the Roman Head cent in the GB of US coins and in the colonial book.

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-

DAVE

From: EricNumis@aol.com [mailto:EricNumis@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2009 5:29 PM
To: qdbarchive@metrocast.net
Subject: Re: Immune Columbia

Dear Dave:

Continuing the IMMUNE COLUMBIA matter I located the basis for the two gold pieces. The second one was written up by me on page 207 of Studies on Money in Early America (ANS 1976) and was diagnosed as a probable forgery made from a casting from a genuine copper piece which had a planchet split. The reverse was different from the Stickney gold coin reverse. If the Stickney gold IMMUNE was done in England there would be no reason to use a struck guinea as the under coin. . You may wish to change your language a little.

On the Roman Head 1792 Washington being included in the Conder token group I checked all of my group of books on such Conder tokens and there are no images, descriptions or listing of the 1792 pieces. The indices list the Washington North Wales items only. I suggest that if you wish to mention them you state they were struck in England as Breen's theories as to their being of comic or sarcastic design is apparently hype. They could have been an earlier design than the 1792 English struck Washington pieces.

When you in your last Email say 1843 is too early for shenanigans I call your attention to the 1804 and associated dollars and eagles as a little earlier and top notch shenanigans in America.

It is great fun trying to figure out matters with minimal facts. Eric

In a message dated 3/7/2009 1:08:56 P.M. Central Daylight Time, qdbarchive@metrocast.net writes:

Thanks, Eric!

I guess the mystery is that 1843 is very early for AMERICAN numismatic shenanigans--and not sure that the dies were over in England. But, if one is overstruck on a guinea, that could be a possibility, although guineas circulated here. Wonder if the fabric can be traced to any British maker--like the Soho Manufactory, which usually turned out technically excellent strikings? Numismatic fantasies as well, such as Copper Company of Upper Canada mulings.

-

Interesting to contemplate.

-

DAVE B

From: EricNumis@aol.com [mailto:EricNumis@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, March 06, 2009 1:32 PM

To: QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET

Subject: Immune Columbia

Dear Dave:

I am delighted that the matter of IMMUNE COLUMBIA in silver and gold came up due to your half cent and large cent draft and our discussion about it. Your comment that there was no justifiable reason for the silver pieces to be made was a new very important observation to me. That impressed me very much because long ago I had hoped that subject might be written up as I knew that certain of those silver pieces had been struck over coins minted long after the 1785-1787 period of privately made Federal patterns. I do not know the date, if ascertainable, of the spade guinea on which the gold Immune was struck. I wrote somewhat on the copper pieces in the 1976 ANS publication but nothing more. Your comment gives essential logic to the matter.

We postulated in our conversion that we jointly could advance this subject together by you doing the further writing, my furnishing my research notes to you, both agreeing on the text, putting it into The Numismatist under joint authorship. I will send you my old file or copies of it as soon as I locate it.

Thanks for listening Eric

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Subj: **Re: Immune Columbia 1785**
Date: 4/2/2009 12:37:10 P.M. Central Daylight Time
From: EricNumis
To: abentley@masshist.org

Dear Anne:

Thank you for locating the Edwards copy of the 1785 Immune Columbia. Naturally I would like the weight, diameters and metal. I presume it is a struck piece and not a cast. Is it possible for you to have someone there make a digital scan or other image of each side. Please also describe the edge. If the image is a problem I will ask some Boston numismatist to be of help.
Your cooperation is most appreciated.

Eric

In a message dated 4/2/2009 12:17:06 P.M. Central Daylight Time, abentley@masshist.org writes:

Hi Eric --

I've got our "Edward's copy" 1785 Immune Columbia out...did you want weight and measurement? We don't have existing photographs, I'm sorry to say.

Happy Spring!

Anne

Anne E. Bentley
Curator of Art
Massachusetts Historical Society
1154 Boylston Street
Boston MA 02215-3695
Tel. 617-646-0508
Fax 617-859-0074
www.masshist.org

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Subj: RE: Immune Columbia 1785
Date: 5/16/2009 10:38:35 A.M. Central Daylight Time
From: abentley@masshist.org
To: EricNumis@aol.com

Dear Eric --

I'm sorry to be so late getting back to you, but we had an emergency book deadline and I knew I'd never get my boss to discuss this while that loomed over his head.

I'm very pleased to say we'll be sending you the images *gratis*, with our thanks for all the fine work you have put out for these many years. All Peter asks is that if you publish the images, you let us know where so that we can add that information to the record.

With best wishes,

Anne

From: EricNumis@aol.com [mailto:EricNumis@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 1:37 PM
To: Anne Bentley
Subject: Re: Immune Columbia 1785

Dear Anne:

Thank you for locating the Edwards copy of the 1785 Immune Columbia. Naturally I would like the weight, diameters and metal. I presume it is a struck piece and not a cast. Is it possible for you to have someone there make a digital scan or other image of each side. Please also describe the edge. If the image is a problem I will ask some Boston numismatist to be of help.

Your cooperation is most appreciated.

Eric

In a message dated 4/2/2009 12:17:06 P.M. Central Daylight Time, abentley@masshist.org writes:

Hi Eric --

I've got our "Edward's copy" 1785 Immune Columbia out...did you want weight and measurement? We don't have existing photographs, I'm sorry to say.

Happy Spring!

Anne

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